Finite English passives and their Norwegian correspondences in original and translated fiction:

A study based on the English-Norwegian Parallel Corpus

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Abstract

This thesis uses translated and original fiction taken from the English-Norwegian Parallel Corpus to investigate the Norwegian correspondences of certain finite constructions of *BE* and *GET* followed by a past participle in English making up the passive voice. The investigation specifically aims at finding the frequency and type of English-Norwegian passives as well as passive-active correspondences, and also the semantic characteristics of corresponding passive verbs.

A frequency and correspondence analysis of passive English-Norwegian correspondence shows that there is a difference in the frequency of correspondence in the selected samples from English original fiction and translated fiction. However, the type of correspondence that is most frequent with a particular English passive does not differ between original and translated texts. The analysis of passive-active correspondence categorises such language into five major categories that reflect the relationship of the English passive verbal group and the corresponding non-passive Norwegian verbal group in the transition from passive to active. Passive English verbs are most often rewritten, retained as a verb in the simple past or present verb in an active construction, transformed into another word class, or represented by a converse verb in an active construction.

The semantic classification of corresponding passive verbs in English-Norwegian correspondence reveals that verbs of activity are by far the most common. The passive verbs in the examined material rarely diverge with respect to the semantic classification of the corresponding passive verbs. Corresponding passive English and Norwegian verbs belong to the same semantic domain in a large majority of cases. Only rarely do corresponding passive verbs diverge into different semantic domains.

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1 Introduction

1.1 Aim and research focus

The aim of this thesis is to compare the use of the passive voice in certain English constructions and corresponding Norwegian language in original and translated English fiction. The English passive is herein understood as a periphrastic construction where *BE* or *GET* is followed by the past participle of a lexical verb (henceforth **Ven**), and to which there exists a direct analogous active construction. The passive voice in English and Norwegian is one of several areas between the two languages where there is similarity as well as differences. The Norwegian passive differs mainly in that it has more forms than the English passive. It has a periphrastic form with two passive auxiliaries that correspond to English *BE*, such as in examples (1.1) and (1.2), and one that corresponds to *GET*. But the Norwegian passive can also occur as morphological construction with the addition of a specific suffix (-*s*/-*st*) to the verb stem, which can be seen in example (1.3).

(1.1) 'The car **was bought** by Sam with his birthday money.'
'Bilen **ble kjøpt** av Sam med bursdagspengene.'

(1.2) 'The souvenirs **were bought** on vacations.'
'Suvenirene **var kjøpt** på ferieturer.'

(1.3) 'Tickets **are sold** to the concert by a low-cost vendor.'
'Biletter til konserten **selges** av et lavprisselskap.'

The primary function of the passive voice is often perceived as separating the subject from the status as agent, either through that of obscuring the agent of the action expressed by the verbal group (short passive), or through a demotion of the agent into another clause element as part of a thematized or prominent construction (long passive). In this respect the passive in English and Norwegian is on common ground.[1] The passive voice in English and Norwegian

[1] A consultation of several grammars – English (Palmer (1987, pp. 83-89), Quirk et.al (1985, pp. 159-160), Biber et.al (1999, p. 475), Christophersen and Sandvded (1969, pp. 221-222), and Hasselgård et.al (1998, pp. 178; 313-315)) as well as Norwegian (Faarlund et.al (1997, pp. 837-840), Enger and Kristoffersen (2000, p. 212; 238),

shares functionality, but differs to some extent in form. The purpose and goal of this thesis is to compare the use of the passive voice in English fiction in original and translated texts and its Norwegian correspondences with respect to this formal difference.

This comparison is carried out in three principal ways on material collected and selected from the English-Norwegian Parallel Corpus. The first is a comparison of passive correspondence between English and Norwegian, meaning the passive occurs in both languages, in terms of the formal properties and frequencies with which they occur. In other words, a correspondence analysis is performed. The second is a semantic classification of the main verbs in the corresponding English and Norwegian passives, the purpose of which is to discover if there are any differences between English and Norwegian and original and translations with respect to the type of verbs used, the frequency of verb types, and which type of correspondence (if any) can be distinguished as the source of any one semantic domain. The final step of the investigation is an analysis of passive-active English-Norwegian correspondence, and it is intended to discover more about the character of active Norwegian language when it stands in relation to the English passive.

The source material for the thesis is the texts of English fiction found in the English-Norwegian Parallel Corpus (the ENPC). The composition of the ENPC is such that the analysis is performed on authentic language, and subsequently the conclusions drawn are based on authentic language.

1.2 Literature on English-Norwegian passives

The literature on the passive voice in an English-Norwegian perspective is scarce. Although there is a wealth of literature on the passive from both English and Norwegian linguists alike, the only comparative look at the passive voice between the two languages in a detailed and specific manner is, as far as I am aware, that of Åfarlí (1992, pp. 77-98). However, his approach or perspective is that of generative grammar, or in his own words he operates within a "Government and Binding framework" (Åfarlí, 1992, p. ix). Furthermore, to my knowledge his comparison of the English and Norwegian passive systems within this framework does not employ authentic language or corpus material. That is not to say that the differences between English and Norwegian with respect to the passive voice are unknown (e.g. Ryen (1999) and

Rønhovd (1997, pp. 72-73), Vinje (2002, pp. 179-181), and Kulbrandstad (2005, pp. 126-127)) – finds that this function is one of the primary functions of the passive in both languages.

Johansson (2008)), but as the primary focus of an investigation the topic appears little explored. Indeed, both English and Norwegian passives have been the subject of contrastive investigations (e.g. Engdahl (1999), Laanemets (2013), and Xiao et.al (2006)), but with other languages rather than each other. It would seem that the present situation is ripe for a contrastive investigation of the passive voice in English and Norwegian.

1.3 Thesis outline

Chapter 2 provides the background against which the thesis can be perceived and understood. The main function of the chapter is to provide an understanding of the language entities which are investigated. Chapter 3 outlines the method by which the language data has been collected and the process of analyzing the collected language data. Chapter 4 lays out the information obtained as a result of applying the methods and analysis outlined in the preceding chapter. The structure of Chapter 4 is such that it presents general information about the language data before individually discussing the different English passives in terms of their character of correspondence and semantic classification. Chapter 5 attempts to briefly and concisely account for the results obtained by the analysis and draw conclusion from these results.

2 Theoretical background

2.1 Introduction

The aim of this chapter is to present a background against which this thesis can better be perceived and understood. This is done by looking at some previous studies on the English passive. From there a working definition of the English passive for the purposes of this investigation is arrived at. This study is a contrastive one, and hence a supplement in the form of a brief explanation of the Norwegian passive system is given. Lastly, it is discussed what it entails that this investigation is both a corpus-based one and a contrastive one

2.2 The English passive in previous studies

The purpose of a brief look at some major studies of the English passive is to establish a background against which the approach to the passive voice in English used herein can be understood. Space does not permit a full and detailed treatment of these studies, and it must be understood that information deemed relevant for the purposes of this investigation has been taken and adapted according to need from these studies. The selection of studies examined is also the result of practical circumstances. For example, the role of generative linguistics in the study of the passive is despite its important role (e.g. Stein (1979, p. 11;20), Granger (1983, pp. 12-19), and Svartvik (1966, p. 1)) not expanded upon.[2] The studies looked at are Svartvik's (1966) doctoral thesis on the English passive, Granger's (1983) investigation into the BE + past participle construction in spoken English, Toyota's (2008) study of diachronic change in the English passive, and Siewierska (1984). In these studies and beyond one inevitably finds that linguists define what is a case of the passive voice and what is not differently and for different reasons.[3] Yet, we also find similarities. For instance, no one denies that the English passive is a verbal periphrastic construction consisting of a grammatical auxiliary and a main verb.

[2] See Granger (1983, pp. 4-54) for a very in-depth description of the different approaches taken to the passive by generativists and other schools of linguistics.
[3] Beedham (1982, pp. 3-4) desribes five "definitions" of the passive that are quite common, that have been made repeatedly, and that arise from (among other reasons) dissatisfaction with one or more existing definitions of the passive.

Svartvik's (1966, pp. 132-138) approach to the English is found in his “passive scale”, a gradient along which [BE + Ven] is classified into different classes of passive. Svartvik (1966, p. 138) himself characterizes such a scale as merely a “coarse guide to the major classes”, but the idea of a gradient of passiveness effectively points out that the passive voice is a complex feature of language to deal with. Because he operates with a continuum of passiveness which has subclasses rather than clearly and rigidly defined categories, Svartvik's approach to the passive can be perceived as wide or broad. At the “most” passive end of this scale we have animate agentive passives, a term taken from Stein (1979, p. 28) and more practical than Svartvik's own naming convention using Greek letters, and at the “least” passive end we find non-agentive passives. An example of the former is (2.1) below, where the verb is a true past participle and the agent is explicit in the form of a *by*-phrase. Example (2.2) is a non-agentive passive, a term given to passives where agent extension or active transformation is unlikely. In the case of (2.2), *heart-broken* is not a verb, and an active construction using the compound word is unlikely in this instance (e.g. *“John will heart-break Old Professor Wali-Ami.”).[4]

(2.1) He was given this puppy by a farmer in the Welsh hills.

(2.2) Old Professor Wali-Ami will be heart-broken.

In traversing from one end of the scale to the other, Svartvik's (1966, p. 38) prime criterion of “potential extensive active transformation” becomes weakened. In addition to understanding the English passive is a periphrastic verbal construction Svartvik also considers the potential for transformation into the active voice an essential criterion. The properties of the past participle are less important for the language in question in order to be considered the passive than what type of passive may be.

The most passive, the so-called animate agentive passives, lie fairly close to what we may intuitively consider “passive”, as in example (2.1). Going from this to the other end of the scale is not just a question of potential transformation; other properties of “lesser” passives can be observed. In general, these can be subsumed under the potential adjectival properties of the verb phrase and the state of the agent (i.e. animate, unexpressed, absent) (Svartvik,

[4] Both of these examples, (2.1) and (2.2), are taken form Svartvik (1966, p. 133; 138).

1966, pp. 132-137). The following examples[5] depict some different passive on the scale: (2.3) has an inanimate agent; (2.4) is an agentless passive, although we could infer both an animate and inanimate agent (e.g. "by the constable/court"); (2.5) and (2.6) have adjectival characteristics as both *encouraged* and *annoyed* can be modified (which in (2.6) already is the case) and coordinated with adjectives (e.g. "we are encouraged and *eager*", and "was suddenly very annoyed and *angry*").

(2.3) […] French, which, as already observed, remained the first language until after Napoleon, when it was exceeded by German, [...]

(2.4) The person convicted was fined only a pound.

(2.5) We are encouraged, therefore, to use the radar data to obtain drop-size distributuons.

(2.6) Gerland was suddenly very annoyed

Although Svartvik considers the English passive a periphrastic construction, he also greatly expands what may be considered a passive auxiliary (see Stein (1979, pp. 32-33) for a visual representation of the expansion) to so-called lexically marked auxiliaries in their mutative (e.g. *become*, *come*, *get*, *go*) and non-mutative varieties (e.g. *appear*, *feel*, *look*, *remain*) (Svartvik, 1966, pp. 93-94). Svartvik's approach to the English passive allows a great many constructions to be considered the passive. Indeed, in Svartvik's investigation the focus is almost more on what type of passive it is rather than if it is passive or not. With a passive scale the difference between active and passive is a definitely a matter of degree, not absolutes.

In his diachronic study of the English passive Toyota's approach to the passive is not remarkably different from Svartvik's approach, but there are some differences in the classification of different types of passives. Toyota (2008, p. 12) also considers the English passive periphrastic with a [BE + Ven] construction, and what he considers the main criteria

[5] Also taken from Svartvik (1966, pp. 133-138).

of the passive are familiar. First is the active transform, although he talks about this in terms of orientation (actor/undertaker) rather than agent and patient to avoid the implication of suffering and the diffuse use to which these two terms have previously been used (Toyota, 2008, pp. 9-12). The second is the valency-reducing operation, which stems from the perceived strong relationship between transitivity and passives (Toyota, 2008, pp. 10-12). This operation entails a loss of an argument in the form of a syntactic element in the transformation from active to passive (e.g. demoting the agent in transition from active to passive can entail a "loss" of the agent being stated explicitly). In contrast to Svartvik, Toyota (2008, pp. 12-13) operates with two main types of passives, the verbal passive and the resultative passive, seen in examples (2.7) and (2.8) respectively.[6]

(2.7) The house was ransacked by gang members.

(2.8) The house is surrounded by the forest.

The former features a subject which is the undergoer (patient) of some change through an event. The resultative passive has no such relationship between undergoer and actor, and simply expresses a state of the subject. An intermediate passive type is the adjectival passive, seen in (2.9) below, which retains an undergoer-actor orientation while still expressing the state of the subject.

(2.9) The lock is situated about three miles from Henley-on-Thames in Oxfordshire.

There is an element of degree here (or scale, if you will), but it is not as fine-grained as that found in Svartvik's study. For instance, we might note the similarity between Toyota's verbal passives and Svartvik's agentive passives, which in turn consists of four different subtypes. Between the two studies common elements are seen in the perception of the passive as a periphrastic construction, the possibility of active transformation, and the dynamic nature (or lack thereof) of the verbal element.

Granger's (1983) investigation of the passive is not directly comparable to the two discussed so far. Although her overview of the different approaches taken to the English passive is an

[6] The examples of these passives are taken from Toyota (2008, pp. 28-32).

ideal to aspire to, her study differs in several ways from Svartvik and Toyota. First and foremost because she only looks at spoken English, which she emphasizes by pointing out that most studies on the passive are performed on written language (Granger, 1983, p. 2). The title of her study, *The BE + Past Participle Construction in Spoken English – With Emphasis on the Passive*, highlights another difference in her work: she only concerns herself with *BE* followed by the past participle (Granger, 1983, pp. 73-74). That is, the study does not concern itself with nor allow passive interpretations with other auxiliaries, such as the mentioned mutative and non-mutative lexically marked auxiliaries. The reasons are twofold: the predominance of *BE* vis-á-vis other auxiliaries, and here she points to Stein's (1979, pp. 221-228) examination of *BE* compared to other auxiliaries in passive constructions, and the greater complexity of [BE + Ven] constructions (Granger, 1983, p. 73). As for the past participle itself, Granger (1983, p. 74) limits herself to "verbal base noncompounds", or past participles with a corresponding infinitive. These two restrictions in her study on the elements in the passive verbal group sets her apart from Svartvik. In his wide understanding of the passive he permits other auxiliaries to function as the passive auxiliary (Svartvik, 1966, pp. 93-94), and he permits a wider selection of past participles through verbal base compounds (e.g. *widespread*, *well-judged*) and nonverbal base non-compounds (e.g *wooded*) and compounds (e.g. *red-haired, down-hearted*). In other words, there is a very different formal premise for the English passive between the two studies.

Despite more stringent formal criteria for the passive verbal group, Granger's classification of [BE + Ven] constructions is no less layered than Svartvik's. She operates with seven different classifications of [BE + Ven], three of which are passives (Granger, 1983, pp. 105-115).

- **Passives:** [BE + Ven] constructions that stand in direct alternation to a semantically equivalent active verbal group, and can be agentful with an overt agent or agentless if the agent is potential

(2.10) That attitude was maintained by the government in the further nine days of debates in the Lords.

(2.11) A great deal of work has been done with a considerable amount of success, but there're a number of imponderables still remaining to be solved.

- **Adjectival pseudopassives:** [BE + Ven] construction that do not stand in alternation to a semantically equivalent active verbal group, and the past participle behaves like a central adjective (i.e. the adjective can be attributive, predicative, intensified by *very*, and comparative and superlative)

(2.12) We are very crowded on our sites – everybody knows this.

(2.13) He's very organised, but I'm not sure that things are quite as definite as that.

- **Verbal pseudopassives:** [BE + Ven] constructions that do not stand in alternation to a semantically equivalent active verbal group, but whose past participle displays no adjectival features. Often the [BE + Ven] construction in these cases are idiomatic or nonagentive (e.g "I'm damned if I do, damned if I don't", "The island is located in the Pacific Ocean")

(2.14) I had known that beautiful country home; like many others, it was situated in the heart of a silver bitch forest.

(2.15) The point is that it's an inflected language at that stage and you're supposed to attend to the endings of the words.

Space does not permit a full discussion of the remaining four classifications of [BE + Ven] Granger employs, but suffice it to say that the language that falls into these remaining categories is marked by a lower degree of certainty as to their passiveness and the dynamic status of the verbal group. A common element between the remaining four classifications is that the verbal group has potential for adjectival properties (Granger, 1983, pp. 111-115).

We can perceive some shared features of the classification of passives between Granger and the two other approaches discussed so far. Particularly between Toyota and Granger, who both have three major passive types, the similarity is very overt. The similarity is not one-to-one: what Granger calls verbal pseudopassives does not overlap with Toyota's resultative passives, but the pairings Passive/Verbal passive and Adjectival pseudopassive/Adjectival passive match fairly well. The former requires an active transform and a particular form of the verbal group, and the latter lacks active transform (or undergoer-orientation in Toyota's

terminology) while featuring adjectival properties with the past participle. Contrasted with Svartvik's passive scale, Granger's Passives is very similar to the agentive passives Svartvik places at the “most passive” end of the scale. Again, Granger's Verbal pseudopassives find no immediate corresponding classification in Svartvik's scale, but the Adjectival pseudopassives lie approximately at the middle of the scale, corresponding more or less to the emotive and attitudinal passives. They are not identical, for the emotive and attitudinal have the potential for different types of transformation into the active (Svartvik, 1966, p. 134) while the Adjectival pseudopassives do not.

Siewierska's (1984) comparative study of the passive is not English-specific. Rather, her investigation was into the passive in a variety of languages. However, her treatment of so-called stative English passives is interesting: she asserts that what many linguists would classify as stative passives (see examples (2.16) – (2.18) below), passives which are “defined either in terms of the semantic role of the subject (and then it would be impossible to distinguish passive clauses from certain actives) or if it is defined in terms of the presence of an auxiliary verb and a deverbal adjective” (Siewierska, 1984, p. 139), are not passives at all. The root of this stance is in that she considers reference to the corresponding active a condition for defining the passive. Her point is that stative passives such as those in (2.16) – (2.18) (Siewierska, 1984, p. 139) lack any direct active construction.

(2.16) The glass is broken

(2.17) His bills are paid

(2.18) Mike was frightened.

The consequence of Siewierksa's stance is that [BE + Ven] constructions with the classification as passive as a result of their adjectival properties and/or lack of potential for an active transform are not a “lesser” type of passive, but not passive at all. Compared to the approaches taken by Svartvik, Granger, and Toyota, whose passives of this adjectival nature simply are given another label (e.g. attitudinal passives, emotive passives, non-agentive passives, adjectival passives, resultative passives, adjectival and verbal pseudopassives), the

English passive in Siewierska's view is confined to those which are non-adjectival and can be transformed into the active with an agent (overt or inferred). Everything else is not passive.

An overview of the comparison and alignment of these studies with respect to their approach taken to the English passive is shown in Table 2.1. Svartvik's passive scale is the basis for comparison. Note that the overview does not include those categories of passives that do not overlap in some way with the scale, such as Granger's verbal pseudopassives and Toyota's quasi-passive (not discussed) which appear to somehow lie outside Svartvik's scale. The overview is, of course, selective and simple. The point is to orient the different approaches in terms of each other, not compare them extensively, and their boundaries as categories are not as fine and definitive as is implied by the representation. Even so it demonstrates that how one chooses to define the passive will impact the entire investigation

Table 2.1: Overview of approaches to the English passive

<table>
<tr><td></td><td colspan="7">Most passive / Dynamic Least passive / Stative</td></tr>
<tr><td>Svartvik</td><td>Animate agent passives</td><td>Inanimate agent passives</td><td>Agentless passives</td><td>Attitudinal passives</td><td>Emotive passives</td><td>Nonagentive passives</td><td>Compounds</td></tr>
<tr><td>Toyota</td><td colspan="3">Verbal passives</td><td colspan="2">Adjectival passives / Resultative passivs</td><td>n/a</td><td>n/a</td></tr>
<tr><td>Granger</td><td colspan="3">Passives</td><td colspan="2">Adjectival pseudopassives</td><td>n/a</td><td>n/a</td></tr>
<tr><td>Siewierska</td><td colspan="3">The English Passives</td><td colspan="4">Not passives</td></tr>
</table>

2.3 Working definition of the English passive

Investigating the passive voice inevitably involves making a decision about what one means by the “passive”. As we have seen, there are many possibilities. For the purposes of this investigation the definition of the English passive used is one that is narrow and limited. That is to say that it is restrictive in what it permits as a case of the passive, and the classification of passives is absolute (i.e. yes or no). A passive scale, such as the one used by Svartvik, is not employed herein. This definition arises out of practical considerations, not out of any dissatisfaction with other approaches or particular theoretical insights. Rather, it is a compromise between the practical issues arising from carrying out this investigation and previous approaches to the passive. The definition is outlined in Table 2.2.

Table 2.2: The criteria for the English passive to be investigated

Number	*Criteria*
I	The English language in question must occur with *BE* or *GET* as auxiliaries in a verb phrase where the main verb takes its past participle form. The verb phrase must be finite.
II	There must exist a plausible active analogue as a result of an active transform where the agent/actor of the active construction is retained either from its explicit presence (e.g. *by*-phrase) or from being inferred. The active transform must be direct, meaning the tense/aspect is preserved in going from the passive to the active (Granger, 1983, p. 96).
III	The past participles of main verbs give no or very little reason for an adjectival transformation or adjectival interpretation of the verb phrase.

In terms of the overview given in Table 2.1, these criteria are intended to orient the understanding of the passive in this investigation towards the dynamic and "most" passive end of the scale. The intent is to operate with an understanding of the passive that lies close to Svartvik's agentive passives, Toyota's verbal passives, and Granger's Passives. However, it also differs in that beyond the boundary set by such an understanding there are no alternative categories of passive, and in that sense the definition shares a common characteristic of Siewierska's. A number of cases that could be labeled as adjectival passives or non-agentive passives are simply non-passives in this investigation.[7] Criteria (II) and (III) in particular are designed to exclude these types of passives. Even so, the definition and criteria used are not boundaries set in stone. Rather, they are a "coarse guide", as Svartvik (1966, p. 147) puts it, and as we shall shortly see, this narrow definition does not automatically make assessment of language as passive and non-passive easy.

Criterion (I) limits the auxiliaries of the passive verb phrase to *BE* and *GET*. The former is not in any way controversial, but *GET* requires some justification. In Quirk et.al (1985, p. 160) *GET* is mentioned as the only real contender to *BE*, and it is a controversial auxiliary in other studies in part, as Stein (1979, p. 46) points out, because it is the auxiliary that has received the most attention.[8] Furthermore, it has been commented that in combination with a past participle *GET* is "[...] apt to lose its character of a copula and assume a function which differs little from that of *to be* as an auxiliary of the passive voice." (Svartvik, 1966, p. 92).

[7] I do not, of course, refute the claim that they are passives at all, just not so within the confines of this investigation.
[8] For a more thorough treatment of *GET* as a passive auxiliary, see Stein (1979, pp. 46-47).

However, others, such as Granger (1983, p. 73), are less inclined toward the inclusion of *GET*. Svartvik (1966, p. 93) classifies *GET* as belonging to lexically marked auxiliaries that are mutative, a set of auxiliaries that include *become*, *come*, *go*, and *grow* among others, but both Svartvik (1966, pp. 135-137) and Quirk et.al (1985, pp. 169-171) make a point out of stating that such lexically marked auxiliaries are typical in passives at the other end of the scale, i.e. non-agentive passives and pseudo-passives. Why include *GET* at all, and why *GET* and not these other mutative lexically marked auxiliaries? *GET* stands apart by occurring in passives that directly correlate to the "central passives" of Quirk et.al's passive gradient (Collins, 1996, p. 45), and thus arguably also Svartvik's agentive passives, Toyota's verbal passives, and Granger's Passives. We are unlikely to find other lexically marked auxiliaries in such central passives, and given the narrow focus and understanding of the passive in this investigation the inclusion of mutative lexically marked auxiliaries beyond *GET* seems unfruitful. However, there is a more practical reason for the inclusion of *GET* as a passive auxiliary. It has been shown that *get* is the most frequent single-item word corresponding to Norwegian *få* (Ebeling, 2003, p. 216). Given that both *GET* and *FÅ* can occur as passive auxiliaries in their respective languages, the inclusion of *GET* is necessary if any relationship between *get*-passives and Norwegian *få*-passives is to be investigated. With the exception of *BECOME*, which is occasionally a correspondence of *BLI* used as a passive auxiliary (Ebeling, 2003, p. 94), the other mutative lexically marked verbs do not have any clear passive auxiliary correspondences in the Norwegian passive system. *GET* as a supplement to *BE* is a reasonable choice given the narrow working definition of the passive.

It is also specified that [BE/GET + Ven] must be finite in order to be considered a case of the passive in this investigation. This too arises from practical considerations, but as a limitation of the investigation it is not without precedent; Svartvik (1966, p. 5) only studied finite language. Although a natural place to draw the line, this decision impacts the study in terms of the material investigated by placing limits on the collection and examination of the language data. The consequence of this limitation is detailed in the following chapter (*cf.* 3.3).

The second criterion is undeniably ambiguous. What does "plausible active analogue" actually mean? For any particular stretch of language to be considered a case of the passive, the following process (Quirk et al., 1985, pp. 159-160) must be possible, and the tense must be preserved as indicated by (t = a):

Passive	NP_2 + $_{(t = a)}$passive verb phrase (+ NP_1 optional *by*-phrase)
Active	NP_1 + $_{(t = a)}$active verb phrase + NP_2

The NP_1 in the passive does not need to be stated explicitly; it can be inferred. Indeed, most passives occur without an explicit agent (Svartvik, 1966, p. 141). That the tense be preserved in the active transform is intended to exclude stative passives.

(2.19) The boat was built by John ~ John built the boat

(2.20) The cat was rescued ~ (They/the firefighters) rescued the cat.

(2.21) The car is finished ~ *They finished the car

As we can see from (2.21), the active transformation involves a change in tense, a sign that it falls outside of what is considered the passive in this thesis. Additionally, (2.21) does not pass criterion (III). There are several ways to check whether or not a particular case such as (2.21) merits an adjectival interpretation instead of a verbal (or dynamic) one. Four tests have been suggested: coordination of the past participle with a true adjective, comparison, modification of the past participle with an intensifier (e.g. *very*), and the occurrence of the past participle in "typically adjectival positions", understood as after a lexical copular verb or as an attributive modifier (Stein, 1979, pp. 29-30). These four are exemplified in order in (2.22) – (2.25).

(2.22) The car is finished and pretty/new

(2.23) The car is more finished now than ever before.

(2.24) The car is quite finished

(2.25) The car seems/appears/looks finished

A process of adjectival transformation is rather unlikely with a passive such as (2.19): "*The boat was built and new by John", "*The boat is more built by John than it was this morning", "*The boat was very built by John", "*?The boat looked/seemed built by John". The last one may not seem all that out of place, but subjected to a battery of tests we are able to distinguish verbal passives from adjectival and stative passives. These four are not the only possible tests we can use to check for the possibility of an adjectival interpretation of [BE/GET + Ven]. Toyota (2008, pp. 256-260) suggests six tests to distinguish stative passives from dynamic (i.e. central/agentive/verbal) passives, two of which are particularly useful. The first is to check whether the passive in question is compatible with a durative adverb phrase (e.g. still […], for […], all […]). Compatibility is indicative of a stative passive. The second is to test for agentivity with the insertion of adverbs such as *deliberately* and *conscientiously*, which do not combine with stative passives. If we apply these two to (2.19) and (2.21), the dynamic and verbal nature of the former is affirmed:

(2.26) *The boat **was built** by John for a week
The boat **was deliberately built** by John

(2.27) The car **was finished** for a week before being retrieved.
*The car **was deliberately finished** for a week before being retrieved.

Examples (2.19) – (2.27) are not authentic language. They are simply intended to demonstrate the operation of each test individually rather than being a demonstration of authentic language being assessed. Unsurprisingly, when these tests are used on authentic language, the task of assessing language as a case of the passive is less clear-cut than the examples shown so far imply. The examples (2.28) – (2.31) below are authentic language from the corpus used in this thesis (*cf.* 3.2), and they highlight some of the problems faced in the classification of the material.

(2.28) *Passive* He's as cool as a cucumber, thought the Senator, but he did not find himself particularly cool after he had read what **was written**, in a very fine hand, on the document – for it could not be otherwise described (RDA1)

(2.29) *Not passive* Unexpectedly, he proved to be one of the best speakers in the movement and at weekends **was needed** to address gatherings around the province (NG1)

(2.30) *Passive* Both **are well run** and efficient, and would keep good records (AH1)

(2.31) *Not passive* She **was surprised** by Stuart, and in more ways than one (RDO1)

We could consider (2.28) the passive for several reasons. First of all, it is a [BE + Ven] construction. It meets criterion (I). Secondly, we can conceive of a plausible active construction that preserves the tense (e.g. "[...] after he had read what they wrote/had written, in a very fine hand, on the document [...]"). Third, there are several tests that indicate the improbability of an adjectival interpretation: qualifying the past participle (*was very/rather/quite written) as well as coordinating the past participle with an adjective (*was written and bold/new/sharp) appear to be illegitimate operations. Agentivity is also indicated (e.g. "was deliberately written"). However, there are also adjectival properties of *written* that are highlighted by the tests: we could replace *was* with a lexical copular verb (e.g. "[...] after he had read what appeared written [...]"), and *written* can be a modifier in a phrase, such as "a written book", or even more adjectivally in "written-off". I have deemed (2.28) a passive in my material, but it is undeniable that it and many other cases are instances where the tests are not in complete agreement. In (2.29), for instance, the situation is reversed: criteria (I) and (II) two are met (e.g "they needed him"), but the possibility for qualification, replacement of *BE* with a lexical copular verb (e.g. "appeared/seemed/became needed"), comparison, and its compatibility with a durative adverb phrase (e.g. "and at weekends was needed all the time to address gatherings [...]") suggests that it is an adjectival passive. Given that (2.29) fails criterion (III), it is a non-passive in this study. The last two, (2.30) and (2.31), are examples of the most difficult cases in terms of assessment. The former has a case for a passive interpretation and a non-passive one depending on our view of the verb phrase, specifically the status of *run* as a past participle or an adjective. We can consider this a case of ellipsis, as in "Both are well run and (are) efficient, [...]", in which case we would have a passive. Tests would support such a view: we can posit a plausible active construction in "They run both well", and we can tests for agentivity "They are deliberately well run". The tests in

combination with the inherently dynamic nature of *RUN* merit classifying (2.30) as a passive, despite the adjectival leanings of some of the other tests (e.g. “seems well run for the time being”). However, we could also see the verb phrase *are well run and efficient* as a case where copular *BE* is followed by coordinated adjectives. Such a view would decisively rule out a passive interpretation. The last example (2.31) is one that is equally difficult, but for different reasons. In this case we have an agentive *by*-phrase that makes a passive interpretation exceedingly alluring. The *by*-phrase is not the only reason for leaning towards a passive interpretation: (2.31) has a very plausible active construction (“Stuart surprised her”), it passes the agentivity tests (“She was deliberately surprised by Stuart”), and it does not fit well with a durative adverb phrase (“She was surprised by Stuart for a week”). The last of these is probably the weakest of the tests, and other tests support an adjectival interpretation. We can, for example, coordinate *surprised* with an adjective (“She was surprised and frozen by Stuart”), and we can replace *BE* with a lexical copular verb (“She felt/appeared surprised by Stuart”). Yet, compared to *run*, *surprised* is inherently more stative. These last two examples are difficult because they can go either way as a result of the tests. I have decided on a passive interpretation of (2.30) (meaning that a passive [BE + Ven] is followed by elided copular *BE* and an adjective) and a non-passive one of (2.31), but it is clear that there is an individual and subjective element involved in these decisions and decisions like them that the battery of tests are unable to rule out entirely. Readers must be aware that even with the narrow and restricted definition of the English passive used in this study, the boundary that separate passives from non-passives is at times unclear and not set in stone.

2.4 The Norwegian passive

The Norwegian passive is similar to the English passive, but the similarity is not one-to-one. The Norwegian passive has a wider range of passive verbal forms, and it can occur with both transitive and intransitive verbs. I lean heavily on the Norwegian grammar *Norsk referansegrammatikk* by Faarlund et.al (1997) for the purposes of this investigation, but bear in mind that there are differences to be found concerning the passive in other Norwegian grammars.[9] The similarity between the English and Norwegian passives is that the Norwegian passive is also periphrastic. The largest difference between the two languages is that the

[9] For example, see Ebeling’s (2003, pp. 64-65; 70-71; 78-80) study of the Norwegian verbs *BLI* and *FÅ*, where differing Norwegian grammars concerning these verbs as passive auxiliaries are discussed. Indeed, some grammars do not even discuss the *få*-passive (e.g. Enger and Kristoffersen (2000), and Vinje (2002)).

Norwegian passive also has a morphological variant, and the passive in general can occur with intransitive verbs where the subject of the clause in an active construction has agentivity (Faarlund et al., 1997, p. 840). An overview of the Norwegian passives with literal translations is shown in Table 2.3.

Table 2.3: Norwegian passives[10]

	Morphological	*Periphrastic*		
	s-passive	*bli-passive*	*være-passive*	*få-passive*
Present	arbeides	blir arbeidet	er arbeidet	får arbeidet
	work$_{\text{s-passive}}$	*becomes worked*	*is worked*	*gets worked*
Past	arbeidtes	ble arbeidet	var arbeidet	fikk arbeidet
	work$_{\text{s-passive}}$	*became worked*	*was worked*	*got worked*
Present perfective	*n/a*	er blitt arbeidet har blitt arbeidet	har vært arbeidet	har fått arbeidet
		has/have become worked	*has/have been worked*	*has/have got(ten) worked*
Past perfective	*n/a*	var blitt arbeidet hadde blitt arbeidet	hadde vært arbeidet	hadde fått arbeidet
		had become worked	*had been worked*	*had got(ten) worked*
Present future	skal arbeides	skal bli arbeidet	skal være arbeidet	skal få arbeidet
	shall work$_{\text{s-passive}}$	*shall be worked*	*shall be worked*	*shall get worked*
Past future	skulle arbeides	skulle bli arbeidet	skulle være arbeidet	skulle få arbeidet
	should work$_{\text{s-passive}}$	*should become worked*	*should be worked*	*should get worked*

The Norwegian *være*-passive and *bli*-passive are the main periphrastic passive forms. Norwegian *VÆRE* and English *BE* are closely corresponding verbs, and *BLI* corresponds quite often to *BECOME* in addition to *BE*[11] (Ebeling, 2003, p. 90). There is a difference in how these two Norwegian passives correspond to English passives, as seen in the literal translations of (2.32) and (2.33)

(2.32) Bilen **ble kjøpt** av mannen.
'The car became bought by the man.'

[10] This overview is taken from Ryen (1999, p. 194) and adapted for use in this investigation. See also *Norsk referansegrammatikk* pages 523-525 (Faarlund et al., 1997).
[11] This implies that the translations of Norwegian passives in Table 2.3 where *become* is the passive auxiliary could instead feature *BE*. For the sake of diversity I have used *become*.

(2.33) Bilen **var kjøpt** av mannen.
'The car was bought by the man.'

In these two we can perceive the difference between the Norwegian *bli*-passive and the *være*-passive: the *være*-passive is by its nature more stative (Faarlund et al., 1997, pp. 524-525). Particularly when the past participles of non-mutative verbs are used the *være*-passive will signal a lasting activity or state. With dynamic verbs the *være*-passive will focus on the end result of the dynamic verb. The *bli*-passive, however, is used for describing single events with focus on the event itself (Faarlund et al., 1997, p. 525). With some verbs the difference between the two passives types is obvious (these examples are taken from Faarlund et.al (1997, p. 525)):

(2.34) Veien **er åpnet**. = 'The road is in a state of being open '
(*Lit:* 'The road is opened')
Veien **blir åpnet**. = 'The road is being opened'
(*Lit:* 'The road becomes opened')

(2.35) Kjolen **var renset** = 'The dress was in a state of being clean'
(*Lit:* 'The dress was cleaned')
Kjolen **ble renset** = 'The dress was being cleaned'
(*Lit:* 'The dress became cleaned')

The morphological *s*-passive has no counterpart in English. In Norwegian it is formed by the addition of the *-s* suffix to the verbal stem (or *-st* in the case of Nynorsk) (Faarlund et al., 1997, pp. 507-509). The *s*-passive is usually formed with transitive verbs, but, as in Table 2.3, it can occur with certain intransitive verbs[12] (Faarlund et al., 1997, p. 514). There is also a semantic difference between the *s*-passive and the periphrastic forms of the Norwegian passive: the *s*-passive usually expresses something general in nature rather than focusing on a single or concrete event. The *s*-passive is the usual choice of passive after modal auxiliaries (Faarlund et al., 1997, pp. 514-515).

[12] The verbs listed apart from *arbeide* are *harke, hoste, jobbe, kjefte, synde, våkne.*

The last Norwegian passive type, the *få*-passive, is less certain than the types mentioned so far. In fact, it is strictly speaking not considered a part of the Norwegian passive system (Faarlund et al., 1997, p. 848), and the *få*-passive is peripheral and uncommon in the Norwegian passive system. Formally it is very similar to the *bli*-passive and *være*-passive in that it features *FÅ* as an auxiliary followed by a past participle. But unlike *BLI* and *VÆRE* the verb *FÅ* can function as a modal auxiliary, not just as a passive one or as a lexical verb (Faarlund et al., 1997, pp. 623-627). As an auxiliary it is versatile.[13] The *få*-passive carries some more restrictions than the other passive types. Like all the other Norwegian passives, the verbal element has to be in the passive form (i.e. passive auxiliary + past participle), and the orientation of the clause elements in the passive would be reversed in the active construction, i.e. subject in the passive is object in the active (Faarlund et al., 1997, p. 838). In addition, *få*-passives are limited to transitive verbs, and the direct object of a *få*-passive must be able to switch places with the past participle (Faarlund et al., 1997, p. 848). In those cases where that is not possible, *FÅ* is an aspectual auxiliary rather than a passive one. Another requirement is that *få*-passive should be compatible with an agentive *av*-phrase (*by*-phrase) (Faarlund et al., 1997, p. 848). Lastly, constructions with *FÅ* can at times be causative, as in (2.36) where the subject and agent *jeg* brings about the repair.

(2.36) Jeg **fikk reparert** båten (av en venn) ~ Vennen reparerte båten
Jeg **fikk** båten **reparert** (av en venn) ~ Vennen reparerte båten
(*Lit:* 'I got repaired the boat by a friend')
(*Lit*: 'I got the boat repaired by a friend')

These four passives types form the basis for comparison with English passives. Despite the similarities between the two languages, there is a wider range of forms in the Norwegian system. Both languages have periphrastic passives, but there is no equivalent English passive to the Norwegian *s*-passive.

[13] See Ebeling (2003, pp. 229-231) for exemplification of the range of application *FÅ* has.

2.5 A corpus-based investigation

This investigation is corpus-based rather than corpus-driven. This investigation is corpus-based in that it approaches the language data in the corpus used (*cf.* 3.2) with a preconceived notion about a particular linguistic category (*cf.* 2.3) and aims to test it, validate it, or refute it (McEnery and Hardie, 2012, pp. 5-6; 150). By contrast, if this investigation had been corpus-driven it would have eschewed any such preconceived idea of a linguistic category. Instead, it would have approached the language data in a "bottom-up" and inductive manner (McEnery and Hardie, 2012, p. 150). That it is corpus-based is not only descriptive of the source material used and the means by which the language data is collected and investigated, but it also signifies a fundamental difference in the approach of using language corpora for linguistic research. Rather than predefining the passive and our understanding of it in English and Norwegian, the definition would arise from interaction and the discovery of a particular configuration of language being associated with particular usage.

The advantages to using a corpus or corpora in linguistic research are many and well know (e.g. Aijmer and Altenberg (1991), Leech (1991), Meyer (2002), Granger (2003), Laviosa (2003), Schmied (2004), McEnery and Hardie (2012)). The corpus used in this investigation, the English-Norwegian Parallel Corpus, is a bilingual corpus, which expands upon the possibilities offered by monolingual corpora (Aijmer and Altenberg, 1996, p. 12):

- they give new insights into the languages compared – insights that are likely to go unnoticed in the studies of monolingual corpora;
- they can be used for a range of comparative purposes and increase our knowledge of language-specific, typological and cultural differences, as well as universal features;
- they illuminate differences between source texts and translations, and between native and non-native texts;
- they can be used for a number of practical applications, e.g. in lexicography, language teaching, and translation.

The advantages and possibilities offered by corpora as machine-assisted resources are not a means to replace the linguist. Leech (1991, pp. 14-17) argues that the introduction of machines in linguistic research in the form of corpora only enhances the iterative process

(collection, evaluation, analysis, correction); humans can evaluate in ways a machine cannot, and machines can perform tasks humans cannot.

Corpus linguistics is not without its hazards and difficulties. There is always the difficulty of aligning technology with language data in a manner that is conducive to linguistic research. There are issues of availability and copyright, of which the ENPC is an example. There is always the danger of computerized language research becoming the point of language research. In the words of Sylviane Granger: “What matters is the use of solid empirical data, whether electronic or not. The last thing we want is for researchers to organize their investigations around the existence of electronic corpora or the capabilities of the computer.” (Granger, 2003, p. 23).

2.6 A contrastive investigation and semantic classification of verbs

This investigation is also a contrastive one. In a general sense this can mean a number of things. James (1980, p. 3) calls it a hybrid linguistic enterprise, one concerned with a pair of languages with the assumption that they can be compared. Johansson’s description of contrastive linguistic is similar: “[it] is the systematic comparison of two or more languages, with the aim of describing their similarities and differences.” (Johansson, 2003, p. 31). Other views on contrastive analysis are more detailed:

> [They] are taxonomic in nature since they are limited to yielding inventories of differences and possible similarities between parallel systems of the compared grammatical structures, between equivalent sentences and constructions, and between equivalent rules operating at various levels of derivations. (Krzeszowski, 2013, p. 35)

The notion of equivalence raised by Krzeszowski is a central one. In its simplest guise equivalence is very much found in Johansson's description above: we are, given the definition of an entity in two languages, looking to find whether an item in L1 is identical to an item in L2, different, or without an equivalent item in L2 (Krzeszowski, 2013, p. 36). That is not to say contrastive efforts are inherently simple; there are many complex concepts and issues, such as what “equivalence” entails, and the grounds for comparison through the

understanding of language entities as comparable (i.e. tertium comparationis)[14] (James, 1980, pp. 167-192).

In terms specific to this thesis the comparison of the two languages English and Norwegian and the language entities of interest (*cf.* 2.3 and 2.4), aims to examine their equivalence in two simple ways. The frequency of their similarity and the characteristics (i.e. types of correspondence) of the similarity in different situations, meaning passive correspondence and passive-active correspondence, is the measure of equivalence. The comparison is also found in the comparison of the main lexical verbs of passives in both languages in terms of their semantic association. There are many ways to approach a semantic classification[15] of verbs, and I have chosen to follow the approach employed by Biber and his colleagues in their grammar of spoken and written English (Biber et al., 1999, pp. 360-364). In this approach verbs are classified into one of seven semantic domains (activity, communication, mental, occurrence, causative, existence, aspectual) according to their "core meanings (i.e. the meaning that speakers tend to think of first)" (Biber et al., 1999, p. 361). However, given that there are a multitude of approaches to the semantic classification of verbs, the choice of this approach is no more correct or better than any other; it is simply a tool that fits the present purpose. The method for using this system of classification is detailed in the following chapter (*cf.* 3.5.2).

[14] James (1980, p. 178) argues for the use of translations as for the basis of equivalence, and in this sense the use of the English-Norwegian Parallel Corpus the requirement or need for teritum comparationis is met.
[15] Approaches considered, but not chosen are those of Halliday (Halliday and Matthiessen, 2004), Viberg (1996), Levin (1993), WordNet (Fellbaum, 1998), Leech (1987), and Dixon (1991). While they certainly could be used for the purpose of a semantic classification of verbs in the passive voice, they are also complex, extensive, and sometimes rooted in particular perspectives on language. The use of the approach in Biber et.al is simpler and more basic, but also more in line with the depth, breadth, and ambition this thesis aspires to.

3 Method and material

3.1 Introduction

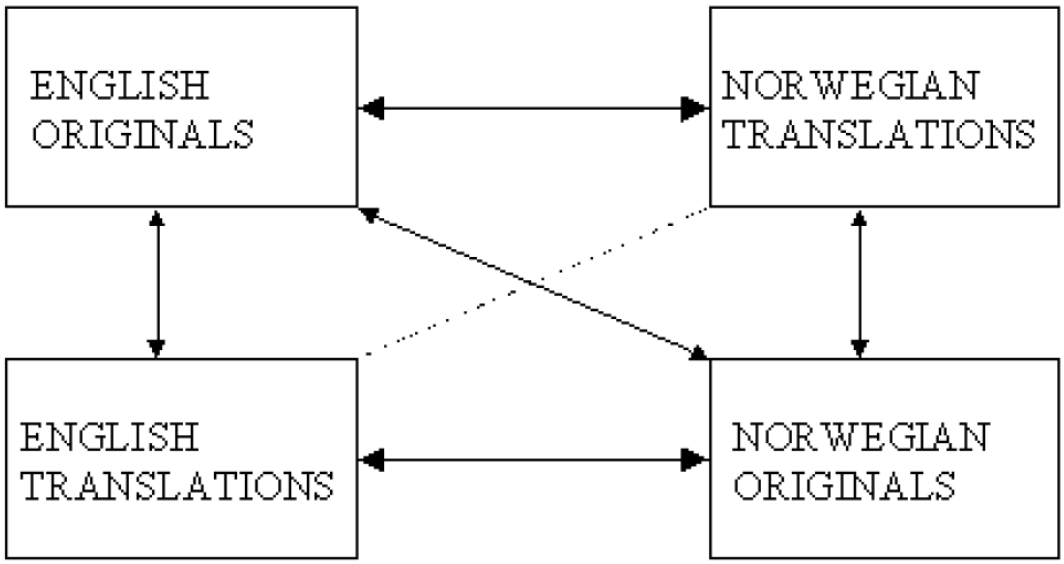
This chapter lays out the material that has been used in the investigation, how the material has been collected, how it has been treated upon collection, and lastly the process by which this material has been analyzed. These parts of the chapter are found in their own sections.

3.2 The English-Norwegian Parallel Corpus

The material used in this thesis is drawn from the English-Norwegian Parallel Corpus.[16] The corpus features English and Norwegian texts and the translations of these texts into Norwegian and English. In this respect the ENPC can be considered a translation corpus (Granger, 2003, pp. 19-20). But the ENPC is also parallel in that it enables comparison between original texts in both languages (i.e. the source and target text are comparable for a number of factors) (Schmied, 2004, pp. 84-88; Granger, 2003, p. 19). The structure of the ENPC, seen in Figure 3.1 (Johansson and Hofland, 1994, p. 26), enables both contrastive and translation studies. The horizontal lines and the solid diagonal line indicate the possibility of the latter, the vertical lines and the dashed diagonal line the former. This thesis makes use of the structure of the ENPC by comparing the dimensions indicated by the horizontal lines (e.g. English → Norwegian, English ← Norwegian)

[16] See http://www.hf.uio.no/ilos/english/services/omc/enpc for further information about the ENPC.

Figure 3.1: The structure of the ENPC



The content of the corpus is covered by the two broad genres fiction and non-fiction, and the text comprising these two genres amount to some 2.6 million words (Johansson et al., 2002, p. 3). This word-count is spread across English originals and English translations in both fiction and non-fiction; in the former genre 30 original and translated texts contribute to the total amount while in non-fiction there are 20 texts contributing. The Norwegian texts of the ENPC have all been tagged for parts-of-speech, and the English original texts have been tagged as well by means of the English Constraint Grammar Parser; each word has been given one (sometimes more) tags reflecting its function in the clause and sentence, such as the **EN** tag for past participle verbs like *walked* (Johansson et al., 2002, p. 20).The ENPC can be accessed and searched through two different search interfaces: Glossa and the Translation Corpus Explorer (TCE).[17] I have made use of the latter in its web-usable form, and as a search tool the TCE has an input field that allows six different inputs separated by "|", as well as two filters that modify the input.

This thesis is focused strictly on the fiction part of the ENPC, and the parts-of-speech tagging carried out on English original text has been made use of. Because the TCE search engine has

[17] See both the ENPC manual (Johansson et al., 2002, p. 22) and the webpage for the ENPC (http://www.hf.uio.no/ilos/tjenester/kunnskap/sprak/omc/) for further detail regarding these search engines.

been used, there are limits on the number of items that can feature in the strings used to search the corpus, and this is evident in the search strings detailed in the sections below.

3.3 Retrieving language data from the ENPC

Finding and retrieving potential cases of the passive voice in English has been done by searching for certain forms of the verb phrase [BE/GET + Ven]. The reason is purely practical in that it is easy to search for the verb phrase through the search interface of the ENPC. This verbal construction is not the only way to find and identify instances of the passive voice in English, but it is more difficult to search a language corpus for a passive configuration of clause elements (e.g. a demoted agent), and it is not particularly trivial to search a language corpus for the potential adjectival properties of the verb phrase (*cf.* 2.4 criteria (II) and (III) of the working definition of the passive). The form of the verb phrase is a practical method for finding potential passive constructions of the [BE/GET + Ven] variety, and one that the ENPC is capable of performing.

The search strings designed to find and retrieve language which features [BE/GET + Ven] are detailed in sections 3.3.1 – 3.3.4 below. However, not all possible forms [BE/GET + Ven] are accounted for. The forms of [BE/GET + Ven] searched for and investigated are shown in Table 3.1, and does not include non-finite, *-ing* form passives, and prepositional passives (e.g. "The problem was gone into by Sam and his colleagues"). Additionally, the combination of the perfective and progressive aspects and its modal variant are not looked for due to their rarity[18] (Quirk et al., 1985, p. 152) and the fact that looking for it in the ENPC requires more search filters than the search interface permits. The exclusion of these in the search as well as classification of passives (*cf.* 2.4 criterion (I)) is on the basis of practical considerations; the scope of this investigation does not permit a detailed look at all possible forms of the verb phrase [BE/GET + Ven].

[18] It is also noted by Leech that the perfective progressive is "almost never found with the Passive Voice" (Leech, 1987, p. 50).

Table 3.1: Forms of [BE/GET + Ven] investigated

Investigated		*Not investigated*	
Simple	was built may be built	*-ing* form	the house being built
Perfective	have been built may have been built	Non-finite	was to be built was to have been built is to be being built
Progressive	is being built may be being built	Perfective progressive	have been being built may have been being built

The simple [BE/GET + Ven] construction is so called because it lacks any aspectual marking (Quirk et al., 1985, p. 189). Additionally, when passive the active construction is the simple present or simple past of the **Ven** element. Passives of the simple [BE/GET + Ven] construction will be referred to as simple passives. It is the least complex of the passives, seen in its lack of function words in the verb phrase apart from the auxiliary. Medial elements can occur in the verb phrase, such as "The house was quickly built by John", and the search strings for the simple [BE/GET + Ven] construction allow for this possibility.

The perfective and progressive [BE/GET + Ven] constructions obtain their names from the inclusion of the respective aspectual markers in the verb phrase. We could express these two constructions with the formulas [HAVE + *been/got(ten)* + Ven] and [BE + *being/getting* + Ven]. When these constructions occur with the passive voice, they will be called the perfective passive (e.g. "The house has been built by John") and the progressive passive (e.g. "The house is being built by John"). However, for these constructions medial elements in the verb phrase are not included in the search. This particular circumstance is the result of the search filter limit of the ENPC search interface, for only two filters are permitted in addition to the search input. It is thus not possible to search for the aspectual marker, *BE* and *GET*, the past participle forms, and the medial elements simultaneously.

As can be seen in Table 3.1**,** these three constructions can occur with modal auxiliaries. The modal varieties of these [BE/GET + Ven] constructions have been included. However, this has not been done equally. There are separate search strings for the simple modal [BE/GET + Ven] construction, while for the perfective and progressive constructions the modal varieties do not have their own search strings. In other words, the search for cases such as "The fuse

would be lit by Jim" is carried out separately from the search for cases without the modal auxiliary (e.g. "The fuse was lit by Jim"). The reason is the high number of simple [BE/GET + Ven] constructions vis-á-vis the number of simple modal constructions (*cf.* 4.2). The random selection of material (*cf.* 3.4) would have a low chance of selecting simple modals for analysis. This is not the case with the perfective and progressive [BE/GET + Ven] constructions. For these, leaving the inclusion of the modal variants to chance is acceptable, but the same is not the case for the simple modal. As such the simple modal [BE/GET + Ven] has unique search strings, has received its own random selection, and consequently separate analysis from the simple [BE/GET + Ven] construction.

This investigation is English-focused and fiction-only, narrowing the area on which the search strings for the simple, perfective, and progressive [BE/GET + Ven] constructions have been used. The focus on English is not exceptional due to the nature of this thesis, and as such only the English texts have been used. However, this means that the language data obtained gives a slightly skewed picture: for the English forms of [BE/GET + Ven] investigated the picture more comprehensive than the Norwegian language data. The Norwegian language data is limited to that which happens to correspond to the [BE/GET + Ven] constructions searched for. The fiction-only limitation is another practical decision. The axis original-translation has been preserved by searching for passives in English original and translated language in fiction. This comes at the expense of the fiction to non-fiction comparison, although the frequency of passives is documented as higher in non-fiction (Biber et al., 1999, p. 478). The narrow focus is in accordance with the practical limitations of the thesis.

In discussing the ENPC above it was made clear that certain parts of the corpus are tagged for parts-of-speech while others are not. Specifically, of the English texts the English originals have been tagged in this manner while English translations have not been tagged. This tagging is taken advantage of in searching for [BE/GET + Ven] constructions in English originals. The search for the same construction in English translations is lexically based. In practical terms this means that all the searches for past participles in English originals are carried out by means of the tag designating the past participle, **EN**. In English translations, words ending in *-ed* have been searched for to find past participles occurring in [BE/GET + Ven] constructions by means of ***ed**. There is an obvious discrepancy between these two means of finding past participles after *BE* and *GET* with respect to irregular verbs. An attempt has been made to reduce this discrepancy, and thus improve the comparability between

English originals and English translations, by supplementing all the searches in the English translations with additional searches for past participles of irregular verbs. To demonstrate: simple passives are searched for in English translations in the present tense by means of [am|are|is + (AND +2 *ed], which looks for words ending in *-ed* immediately following *am, are* or *is* or preceded by one medial element. Compared to the same search in English originals [am|are|is + (AND +2 EN)], no past participles of irregular verbs are accounted for. The search in English translations is supplemented in the following way: [am|are|is + (AND +2 (select irregular past participles)]. These select past participles of irregular verbs[19] are *been, had, done, said, made, gone, taken, come, seen, known, got, given, found, thought* and *told*. The selection is based on a frequency investigation of irregular verbs in the BROWN and LOB corpora carried out by Grabowski and Mindt (1995). In their investigation, the listed irregular verbs account for, in aggregate, eighty per cent of all irregular verbs used (Grabowski and Mindt, 1995, p. 13). The cut-off point of *told* is admittedly arbitrary, but the next irregular verb on the list and all subsequent irregular verbs account individually for less than one per cent of the total irregular verbs in the two corpora. In fact, *TELL* only accounts for 0.8 per cent of all irregular verbs, which compared to the share of 41.8 per cent held by *BE* is practically negligible. Using *told* as a cut-off point might be arbitrary, but the marginal benefit of including past participles of irregular verbs past this point is very small indeed. This supplementation of searches for [BE/GET + Ven] in English translations is carried out for every single search string where ***ed** is used to find past participles ending in *-ed*. The only exception to this is with perfective [BE/GET + Ven] construction, where the irregular past participles *been* and *got* are not included. It makes little sense to search for [HAVE + *been* + *been*] or [HAVE + *got* + *got*]. There is, of course, no guarantee that the most frequent irregular verbs in the BROWN and LOB corpora are the most frequent ones in the ENPC. Nevertheless, a corpus based frequency list is arguably the most objective selection criterion available.

A final word must be said about the search strings that have been used and which are outlined in detail in the following sections. They are not vacuum-tight, nor are they a guarantee of passive status. For instance, example (3.1) is a result obtained by searching for the simple passive in English originals. It is clearly not a passive as defined in this investigation (*cf.* 2.3)

[19] The verbs *been*, *gone*, and *come* are not transitive and not candidates for passive constructions. I have employed the frequency list as is to account for eighty per cent of the irregular verbs rather than be selective. These three verbs are admittedly poor choices for finding passives with irregular past participles.

in that it is a copular construction, yet it is still a result returned by the search strings due to *surprised* being tagged as a past participle. (3.2) is an example of duplicate results. In this case it is a result from a search for simple passives with medial elements (i.e. [*am* + (AND +2 EN)], but it so happens that this medial element makes it an instance of the progressive. We could expect example (3.2) to resurface as a result when using the following search string for the progressive [BE + (AND +1 *being*) + (AND +2 EN)]. While it is not possible to eliminate duplicate results in the raw data obtained by the use of the search strings, duplicate results that remain after the random selection have been replaced with a new and unique result prior to analysis.

(3.1) Sometimes people are surprised that we're friends (JB1)

(3.2) It's all my fault and I **am being punished**. (FW1)

3.3.1 The simple passive and its search strings

The simple passive may be so called because it features the least complex verb phrase in terms of [BE/GET + Ven]. That is, the active construction of a simple passive is usually the simple present or past (e.g. “The criminals were *caught* by police” ~ “The police *caught* the criminals”). The simple passive includes the finite forms of *BE* and *GET*, and may feature an optional sentence adverbial or negation in medial position between the auxiliary and the past participle. As mentioned, simple modal passives are possible, but these have been investigated separately.

Because the original English texts in the ENPC are tagged for parts of speech while the English translations are not, separate search strings are needed to effectively search for forms of [BE/GET + Ven] in both sections of the corpus. Table 3.2 below gives an overview of the considerable number of searches and search strings required for the simple passive.

The searches are not lemmatized. As is clear from Table 3.2, [BE + Ven] constructions have been searched for in English originals by means of specifying the forms of *BE* rather than searching for past participles following these lemmas. This is done in order to exclude *be*, which if included would open up the results to cases where modal auxiliaries (e.g. [mod.aux + *be* + Ven]) occur in the verb phrase. These are searched for separately.

Table 3.2: Search strings for simple [BE/GET + Ven] constructions with a potential medial element (X)

Corpus component	*Verb phrase*	*Search strings*[20]
English original fiction	am|are|is|was|were + (X) Ven	[*am*|*are*|*is*|*was*|*were*|*'m*|*'re*|*'s* + (AND +2 EN)]
	get|gets|got + (X) -Ven	[*getgot*|*gets* + (AND +2 EN)]
English translations of fiction	am|are|is|was|were + (X) *-ed*	[*am*|*are*|*is*|*was*|*were*|*'m*|*'re*|*'s* + (AND +2 *ed)]
	get|gets|got + (X) *-ed*	[*get*|*got*|*gets* + (AND +2 *ed)]

3.3.2 The simple modal passive and its search strings

The simple form of [BE/GET + Ven] may occur with modal auxiliaries as well (e.g. "This crime will be investigated"). As a result of the infinitive of *BE* following a modal auxiliary and preceding the past participle, the search strings in the previous section does not capture any such instances. The search strings for modal auxiliaries occurring with the simple passive are the following:

Table 3.3: Search strings for simple [BE/GET + Ven] constructions occurring with central modal auxiliaries

Corpus component	*Verb phrase*	*Search strings*
English original fiction	Mod.aux + *be* + Ven	[*be* + (AND -1 Vmod) + (AND +1 EN)]
	Mod.aux + *get* + Ven	[*get* + (AND -1 Vmod) + (AND +1 EN)]
English translations of fiction	Mod.aux + *be* + *-ed*	[*be* + (AND -1 (CM)) + (AND +1 *ed)]
	Mod.aux + *get* + *-ed*	[*get* + (AND -1 (CM)) + (AND +1 *ed)]

As is the case with the regular simple passive, (AND +1 EN) ensures that the past participle occurs after *be* and *get* in the English original texts. Similarly, but not identically, (AND +1 *ed) returns instances of words with an *-ed* ending following *be* or *get.* For the English original texts the (AND -1 Vmod) filter ensures that only instances where a modal auxiliary

[20] The input field of the ENPC search interface permits only six inputs, meaning that search strings with more than six inputs are carried out with two or more searches. By means of example, [*am*|*are*|*is*|*was*|*were*|*'m* + (AND +2 EN)] and [*'re*|*'s* + (AND +2 EN)] are the two searches for the simple [BE + Ven] constructions.

precedes *be* or *get* are retained. The English translations, not being tagged, are not so easy to filter for [BE/GET + Ven] preceded by a modal auxiliary. As such, the (AND -1 (CM)) filter is not actually a working filter. The (CM) stands for the central modal auxiliaries *can, could, may, might, shall, should, will/'ll, would/'d,* and *must* (Quirk et al., 1985, p. 137). The search for the simple modal passive in the English translations is a repetitive endeavor ensuring that all of these modal auxiliaries are included. Given the two-filter limit of the search engine of the ENPC, instances where a medial element occurs either between the modal auxiliary and the infinitive *be* or *get*, or between *be* and *get* and the past participle, have not been deliberately retrieved from the corpus.

3.3.3 The perfective passive and its search strings

The search for perfective [BE/GET + Ven] constructions deserves comment due to being searched for slightly differently than the simple and progressive types. Due to an issue with the ENPC returning irrelevant results, such as noun phrases after *been*, when *been* is followed by the filter (AND +1 EN) (this is probably due to *been* having the same tag), rather than searching for past participle occurring after *BE* and *GET* preceded by *HAVE*, the search string is designed to find *been* preceded by *HAVE* (lemma) and followed by the tag EN. The difference is that in the former *been* is one of the search filters while in the latter it is the search input (i.e. search for *HAVE* and X and Y vs. search for *been* and Z and Y). The same problem does not occur with searches in English translations as they are lexically based rather than based on the parts-of-speech tagging, and consequently the search strings differ. As mentioned earlier, these search strings do not include medial elements in the verb phrase. Unfortunately, simply extending the distance from *been* to the past participle with (AND +2/3/...) does not accurately obtain medial elements in the verb phrase.

Table 3.4: Search strings for perfect [BE/GET + Ven] constructions

Corpus component	*Verb phrase*	*Search strings*
English original fiction	HAVE + *been* + Ven	[*been* + (AND -1 HAVE) + (AND +1 EN)]
	HAVE + *got(ten)* + Ven	[*gotten* + (AND -1 HAVE) + (AND +1 EN)]
		[*got* + (AND -1 HAVE) + (AND +1 EN)]
English translations of fiction	have|had|has|'ve|'d|'s + *been* + *-ed*	[*have*|*had*|*has*|*'ve*|*'d*|*'s* + (AND +1 *been*) + (AND +2 *ed)]
	have|had|has|'ve|'d|'s + *got(ten)* + *-ed*	[*have*|*had*|*has*|*'ve*|*'d*|'s + (AND +1 *gotten*) + (AND +2 *ed)]
		[*have*|*had*|*has*|*'ve*|*'d*|*'s* + (AND +1 *got*) + (AND +2 *ed)]

3.3.4 The progressive passive and its search strings

The search strings for progressive [BE/GET + Ven] constructions are quite similar to the perfective ones. There is, however, no conflict in tagging when searching for the progressive construction. The search string looks for *BE* followed by *being/getting* and a past participle. *Being* and *getting* are specified in order to avoid other *-ing* words in the verb phrase being among the results returned by the search engine. As with the perfective construction, the search is lemmatized for English originals, but not for English translations. Because the search is lemmatized for English originals and because the English translations included the infinitive of *BE*, the modal version of the progressive constructions are included.

Table 3.5: Search strings for progressive [BE/GET + Ven] constructions

Corpus component	*Verb phrase*	*Search strings*
English original fiction	be|am|are|is|was|were|'m|'re|'s + being + Ven	[BE + (AND +1 *being*) + (AND +2 EN)]
	be|am|are|is|was|were|'m|'re|'s + *getting* + Ven	[BE + (AND +1 *getting*) + (AND +2 EN)]
English translations of fiction	be|am|are|is|was|were|'m|'re|'s + being + *-ed*	[*be*|*am*|*are*|*is*|*was*|*were*|*'m*|*'re*|*'s* + (AND +1 *being*) + (AND +2 *ed)]
	be|am|are|is|was|were|'m|'re|'s + *getting* + *-ed*	[*be*|*am*|*are*|*is*|*was*|*were*|*'m*|*'re*|*'s* + (AND +1 *getting*) + (AND +2 *ed)]

3.4 Storage and selection of language data

The language data obtained by employing the search strings outlined above has been collected into sets that reflect the language status as original or translation and the potential passive type. The split between search strings for English originals and English translations reflect that there are two language data sets for the simple, the simple modal, the perfective, and the progressive [BE/GET + Ven] constructions. For example, language data obtained by searching for the simple [BE/GET + Ven] construction by means of the search strings shown above is stored in the sets [ENG-O-Simple] and [ENG-T-Simple], where the former contains **all** the results from each string used on the English original corpus component, and the latter contains **all** the results from each string used on the English translations corpus component. There are in total eight sets of language data, and it is from these eight sets that the material analyzed has been selected.

The selection of material for analysis was done by means of random selection. One hundred random results were drawn from each set associated with a particular type of [BE/GET + Ven] and a particular corpus component (e.g. sets such as [ENG-O-Simple], [ENG-T-Perfective], [ENG-T-Simple], etc.). The selection was based on a list of one hundred random generated numbers.[21] Because the language data is stored in a spreadsheet document, and

[21] The random number generator found at http://www.random.org/integers/ was used to generate lists of 100 random numbers corresponding to the lower and upper limit of each data set.

because the rows of such a document are numbered, the random numbers were generated to correspond to the number of rows covered by any particular set with a lower limit of one (1) and an upper limit matching the last row. For example, for the data set [ENG-T-Simple], one hundred numbers between one and 8798 were used to select the items for analysis. In the case of this particular data set, the large span is a result of the considerable number of results obtained by the search strings in combination with the format the language data takes in the spreadsheet.[22] The numbers used for selecting the data to be analyzed have been stored separately from the actual selection. The selection itself is saved to a separate spreadsheet document. The only exception to this selection process is with the progressive search strings. Because the number of search results are less than a hundred, the language data obtained when searching for progressive [BE/GET + Ven] constructions has been examined in its entirety.

3.5 Analysis of language data

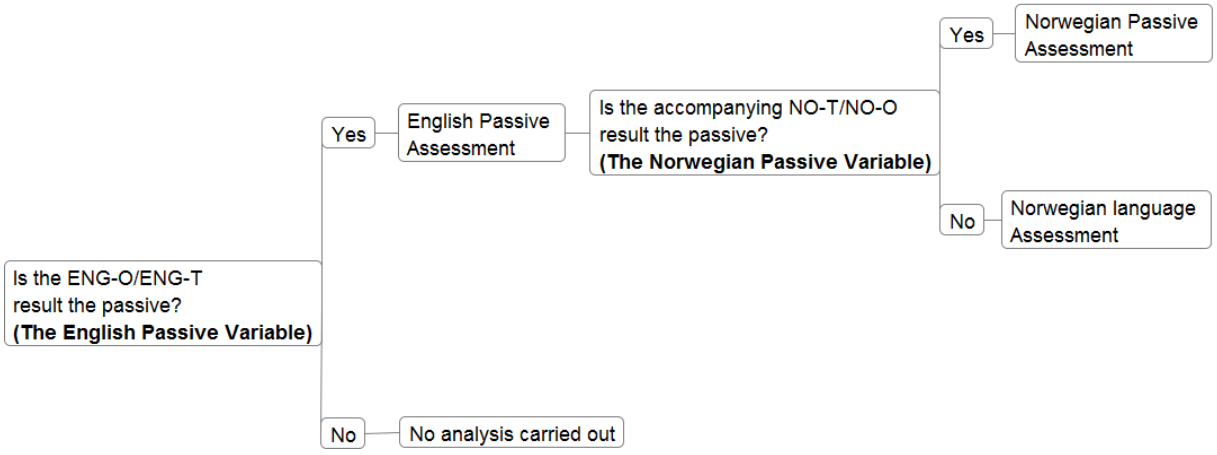
The purpose of the analysis, and indeed the entire investigation, is to identify correspondences between English and Norwegian with respect to the use of the passive voice and subsequently classify these correspondences. Or in other words, the aim is to find form and usage that correlate between the two languages (Johansson, 2008, p. 26). Seen as a whole, the analysis is a process to uncover correlations and patterns. However, the analysis is not one uniform task, but consists of three separate undertakings. The first of these is to ascertain the passive or non-passive status of the English language data obtained and selected, and the corresponding Norwegian language. The second concerns itself with a semantic classification of the main verbs (i.e. **Ven**) of the corresponding passive verbal groups in English and Norwegian (congruent correspondence). The third part of the analysis attempts to provide a classification of the processes that take place when English passives have active Norwegian language as correspondences.

[22] Because of the transfer process from the ENPC to a spreadsheet, an individual result will usually occupy 4 rows; one for the actual written English and Norwegian each, and one each for the text source code. Multiplied by hundreds and thousands of results, the number of rows needed in a spreadsheet to store this data is considerable.

3.5.1 Identifying passives

The first step of the analysis is ascertaining the passive status of the English language data obtained and the Norwegian correspondences. In addition, the language data has been assessed for some basic traits, such as the type of passive auxiliary, medial elements, modal auxiliaries, and (if passive) whether a long or short passive. Pictorially, the process of identifying passives can be represented in the following way:

Figure 3.2: Identifying passives in the selected language data



3.5.2 Semantic classification of verbs in English-Norwegian passive correspondence

The semantic classification of the main verb in English and Norwegian passive verbal groups follows that of Biber et.al (1999, pp. 360-371). The English and Norwegian verbs have been classified into one of seven semantic domains listed in Table 3.6 (example verbs are also shown). The purpose of classifying the main verbs in the passive verbal groups of corresponding English and Norwegian passives is three-fold. The first is to find out the frequency of each semantic domain of passive verbs in English originals and translations. The second purpose is to how see how congruent corresponding English and Norwegian passive verbs are in terms of semantic domains. The final goal of the classification is to discover whether any particular English-Norwegian passive correspondence can be understood as an exceptional contributor, or source if you will, of passive verbs belonging to a particular semantic domain, and whether there are differences between English originals and translations in this respect.

Table 3.6: Semantic domains for verb classification

Activity	Communication	Mental	Causative	Occurrence	Existence	Aspectual
arrange, beat, cover, burn, clean, deliver, exercise, smile, throw, visit	*answer, deny, explain, convince, declare, reply, threaten, urge*	*agree, decide, enjoy, forget, notice, plan, prove, impress, judge, perceive*	*affect, cause, enable, ensure, force, prevent,permit*	*arise, born, increase, last, rise, flow, sink, slip*	*deserve, matter, reflect, remain, sound, tend, lack, own, vary*	*complete, end, finish, cease*

The seven domains used by Biber et.al (1999, pp. 360-371) and shown in Table 3.6 are broad categories, especially when compared to Levin's (1993) 49 different verb classifications, many of which have subtypes. For example, *smile* and *throw* are both activity verbs, but undeniably different; the former is closer to a manner or behavior type activity, the latter is a forceful and motion activity. However, such classification is difficult and complicated by the fact that many verbs carry more than one meaning. In example (3.3) the corresponding passive verbs *run* and *drives* are both activity verbs, but the meaning used is not that of the physical activity. Instead, we could say they are used to indicate the running of an operation; they are operating activity verbs. Another problem in classification is seen in (3.4). The corresponding passive verbs *observed* and *fulgt* are not so easily classified. The act of observing can be understood as a mental enterprise, but it is being used figuratively in this case to indicate a particular type of behavior. In this case *observed* is an activity verb, but the distinction is less clear-cut than with verbs such as *throw, jump,* and *build*. The corresponding Norwegian *fulgt* is not figurative. The classification of passive English as well as Norwegian verbs is not a clear-cut task when it comes to which semantic domain they belong to individually and how they compare with each other. Nevertheless I have made an attempt to classify them both, but it must be said that the degree of certainty of this classification is quite open for discussion.

(3.3) Both **are well run** and efficient, and would keep good records. (AH1)
Begge **drives** godt, og vil føre effektiv statistikk. (AH1T)

(3.4) There's not much difference between an able thief and his surroundings, as long as the rules of the game **are observed**. (KF1T)
Det finnes bare liten motsetning mellom en dyktig tyv og hans omgivelser, når bare spillereglene **blir fulgt**. (KF1)

3.5.3 Classification of passive-active English-Norwegian correspondence

The cases where English passives do not have corresponding Norwegian passives have also been investigated. As with the passive correspondence, the verbal group is the focus for classifying such passive-active correspondence. Because the dichotomy passive-active is not particularly useful in understanding the relationship, or what "happens" in the transition from passive to active, an attempt has been made to better describe the language by focusing on the change in voice. The relationship between the passive English verbal group and its main verb, and the corresponding active Norwegian verbal group, is thus the basis on which the passive-active correspondences have been classified. I follow no particular framework of linguistic theory in this enterprise, and instead I aim for consistency: the passive correspondences have been classified and categorized on the basis of the corresponding verbal groups, and the same approach is taken with passive-active correspondence.

4 Findings

4.1 Introduction

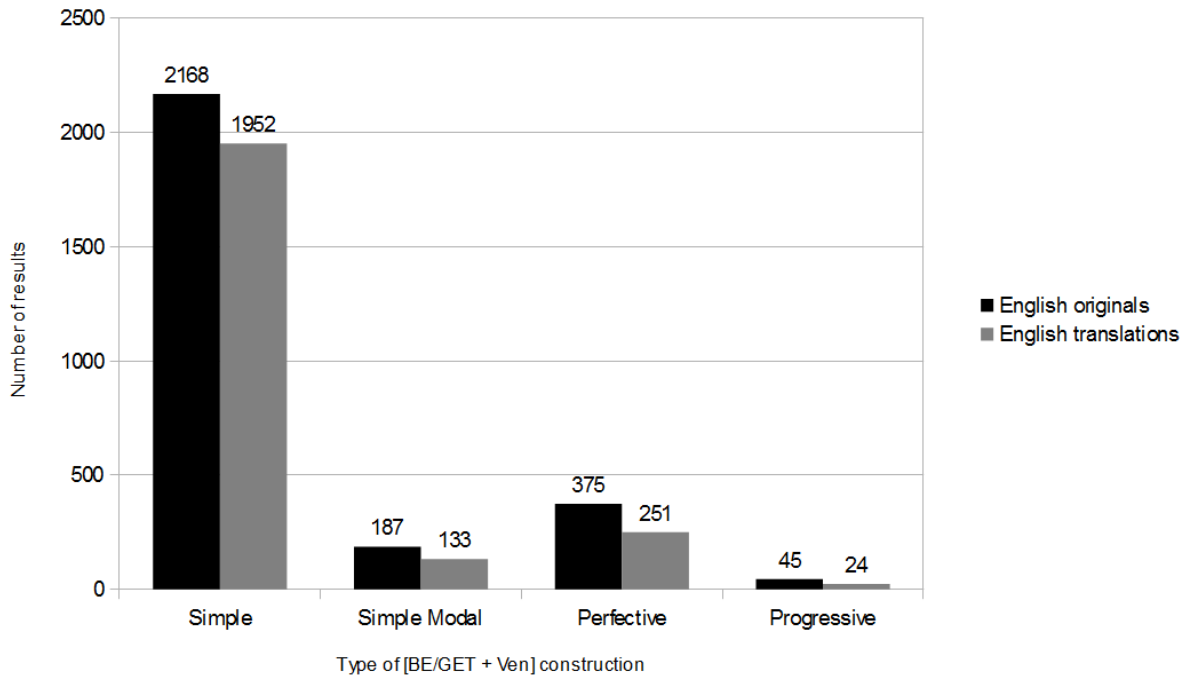
The intention of this chapter is to outline the results and findings obtained by employing the methods in outlined the previous chapter. The main sections of this chapter are those addressing the English passives with corresponding Norwegian passives, so called congruent correspondence, and those addressing English passives without corresponding Norwegian passives (sections 4.3 – 4.8). A brief overview of frequencies of English passives and correspondences in the selected material, as well as the overall picture obtained through semantic classification of corresponding passive verbs, is given in section 4.3.The different types of English passives are discussed in their own sections in terms of correspondence and semantic classification in sections 4.4 through 4.7.Non-congruent English-Norwegian correspondences is discussed in section 4.8. Preceding this main part of the chapter is a section (4.2) on the language data obtained and its comparability. As was made clear in the previous chapter, the search strings for English original texts and English translations are not equivalent. An attempt has been made to readdress the discrepancy that arises from this situation in order to improve comparability. The outcome of this attempt is the first enterprise of the chapter.

4.2 The language data: overview and comparability

The total raw language data obtained by the methods and search strings outlined in the previous chapter is a considerable amount. It is clear from Figure 4.1 that the distribution of the language data is uneven across the different [BE/GET + Ven] constructions investigated. The simple [BE/GET + Ven] construction outnumber the others by a factor of four to one. It is from this population of language data associated with each type of [BE/GET + Ven] construction that the one-hundred random samples have been selected (i.e. one-hundred from the 2168 simple English originals, one-hundred from the 1952 simple English translations, and so forth) and analyzed. Given these raw numbers, it is clear that the simple construction is the one with the greatest discrepancy between the total number of results and the random selection. The simple modal, perfective, and progressive [BE/GET + Ven] constructions are considerably better represented by the analysis, with 62 per cent of simple modal

constructions analyzed, 32 per cent of the perfective constructions, and all of the progressives accounted for. However, before discussing what the analysis reveals in terms of the frequency of the passive and the correspondences, the issue of comparability must be addressed. The search strings for original and translated English texts are not identical and a logical consequence of this is that the language data is not directly comparable. By supplementing with irregular past participles in the search strings for English translations (*cf.* 3.3), this discrepancy between the data with respect to originals and translations has been reduced. The question is by how much, and to which the answer is that the supplementation is quite effective at reducing the discrepancy between English originals and English translations. The basis for comparison is fortified by the supplementation.

Figure 4.1: Overview of language data



The supplementation of the search strings used for English translations can be considered beneficial in terms of improving comparability on the basis of the results obtained by testing the process of supplementation on English original texts. The English original texts can be searched with purely lexical means and with the aid of tags, providing a count of [BE/GET + Ven] constructions that shows the numerical difference between the two methods of finding such constructions with respect to **Ven**. A purely lexical search with ***ed** sets gives the

number of [BE/GET + Ven] constructions obtained when only words with the *-ed* ending are included. A search taking advantage of the tags provides us with a count for the number of [BE/GET + Ven] constructions obtained when regular and irregular past participles are included as tagged in the corpus. The degree to which the supplementation reduces the numerical difference in language data between these two ways of searching English originals can be seen as a measure of how effective the supplementation actually is, and thus by extension how effective it is at fortifying the language data obtained by searching English translations.

Table 4.1: Supplementation of searches with select irregular verbs

	A	*B*	*C*	*D*	*E*	*F*	*G*
[BE/GET +Ven] construction	*English originals with EN-tag*	*English originals with only *ed*	*Difference between A and B*	*Additional English original results through supplementation*	*English translations with only *ed*	*Additional English translation results through supplementation*	*Sum of columns E and F*
Simple	2168	1646	522	375	1618	334	1952
Simple modal	187	121	66	37	112	21	133
Perfective	375	235	140	36	208	43	251
Progressive	45	32	13	6	24	0	24
Total	2775	2034	741	454	1961	398	2359

The effect of supplementing the ***ed** searches in English originals with select irregular past participles can be seen in Table 4.1 column D, and reduces the discrepancy between the tagged and lexical searches from 741 to 287 (741 minus 454). From column F we can see that the additional number of results obtained by searching English translations by means of supplementing the ***ed** search strings with select irregular past participles is not far off the additional results obtained from the supplemented search when used on English originals (column D). There is thus good reason to consider the process of supplementation as an effective measure in improving the comparability between English originals and English translations. The supplementation reduces the discrepancy between the language data collected from English originals and English translations from 814 (2775 minus 1961) to 416 (2775 minus 2359). In other words, the discrepancy is reduced from thirty per cent to fifteen

per cent. These fifteen per cent do constitute a gray area which is not accounted for, but it is nevertheless the better alternative. Simply searching both lexically would obtain much more directly comparable language data (columns B vs. E),[23] but it would also exclude 1139 cases where irregular past participles are potentially the **Ven** element of a [BE/GET + Ven] construction. There is reason to believe that supplementing the searches carried out on English translations with select irregular past participles provides a good foundation for comparison.

A final word concerning Figure 4.1 relates to the [BE/GET + Ven] construction types simple and simple modal. The latter is related to the former much the same way that modal perfective and progressive constructions of [BE/GET + Ven] are found within the 375/251 and 45/24 results respectively. As was mentioned (*cf.* 3.3), the simple modal [BE/GET + Ven] construction has been retrieved and looked at separately due to the large numerical difference between it and the simple construction. If we were to rely exclusively on random chance for the inclusion of simple modal [BE/GET + Ven] constructions, we would have a 7.7 per cent chance when selecting the one-hundred random samples to pick out a simple modal construction. With the perfective and progressive constructions it was deemed acceptable to leave the inclusion of the modal variants of these to chance given their relatively low numbers, but for the simple construction of [BE/GET + Ven] leaving it to chance was too great a risk.[24]

4.3 Passive correspondence and passive verbs in a larger perspective

4.3.1 Overview of frequencies and correspondences

An overview of how many of the cases from the random selection is are instances of the passive as defined in section 2.3, and how many of the Norwegian correspondences are passives and non-passives, is provided in Table 4.2. The table shows how many of the one-

[23] Another possibility is to compare the language data when both are lexically searched and supplemented with searches for irregular past participles. This would be the language data obtained columns B plus D (2488) compared with columns E and F (2359).

[24] Also to consider is the fact that with the simple modal constructions the search for the verb phrase [modal auxiliary + BE/GET + Ven] is possible with the ENPC search engine. The same is not possible for the modal variants of the perfective and progressive constructions, as searching specifically for [modal auxiliary + BE + *being/getting* + Ven] and [modal auxiliary + HAVE + *been/got(ten)* + Ven] would require a third search filter to accompany the search term. The ENPC allows only two search filters.

hundred randomly selected and analyzed results for each type of [BE/GET + Ven] construction are passives in accordance with the working definition used herein, how many Norwegian correspondences are also passive, and how many are not (e.g. of the one-hundred simple original [BE/GET + Ven] constructions randomly selected, 46 per cent were cases of the passive, and of these 46 per cent 65 per cent had a Norwegian passive as correspondence while 35 did not). Not shown are the types of Norwegian passives that feature as correspondences. The English passives of the [BE/GET + Ven] constructions examined in this thesis will be discusses separately in later sections.

Table 4.2: The number of English and Norwegian passives

Text source	*Passive type*	*Number analyzed*	*Number of English passives*	*Number of corresponding Norwegian passives*	*Number of corresponding Norwegian non-passives*
English originals	Simple	100	46 (46 %)	30 (65 %)	16 (35 %)
	Simple modal	100	79 (79 %)	42 (53 %)	37 (47 %)
	Perfective	100	96 (96 %)	65 (68 %)	31 (32 %)
	Progressive[25]	44	41 (93 %)	21 (51 %)	20 (49 %)
English translations	Simple	100	40 (40 %)	23 (57.5 %)	17 (42.5 %)
	Simple modal	100	73 (73 %)	47 (64 %)	26 (36 %)
	Perfective	100	84 (84 %)	59 (70 %)	25 (30 %)
	Progressive	23	21 (91 %)	15 (71 %)	6 (29 %)
Total		667	480 (72 %)	302 (63 %)	178 (37 %)

In the material I have selected and analyzed there is a trend of increasing proportion of English passives, understood as [BE/GET + Ven] constructions that meet the criteria given in Table 2.2, as the complexity[26] of the verb phrase increases. Within this selection the frequency of passives more than doubles from the simple to the progressive in both original and translated English texts. This is arguably not unexpected: the simple passive has a verb

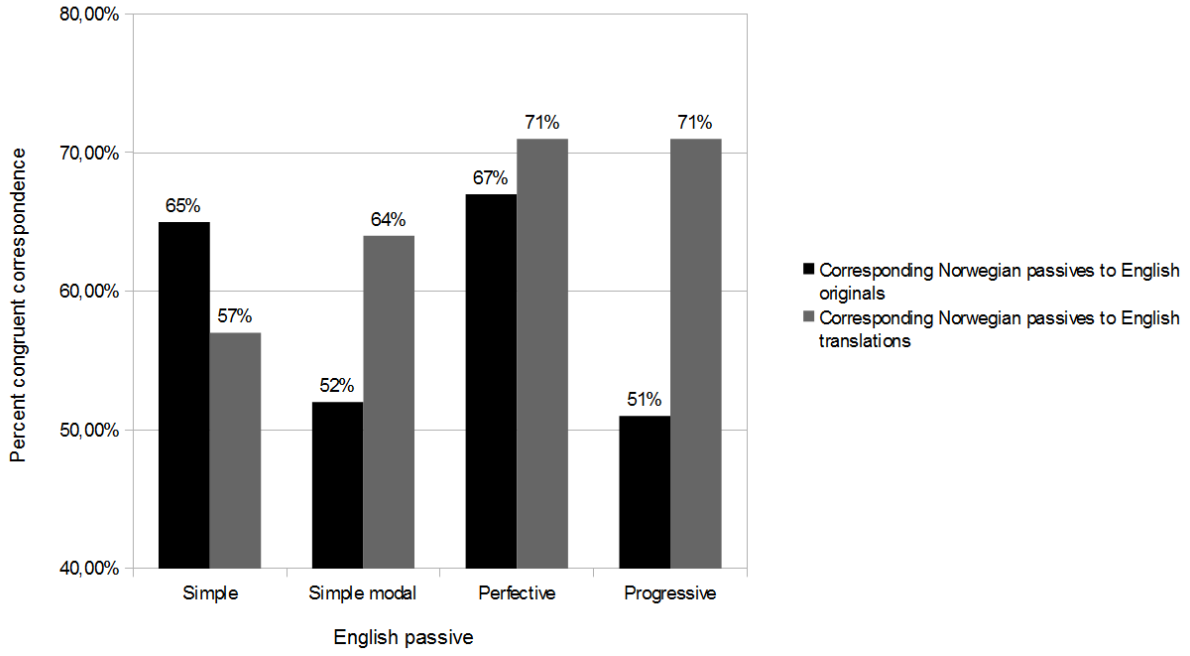
[25] It may be noted that the number of progressive constructions analyzed is one (1) less than the number seen in Figure 4.1 for both English originals and translations. This is due to the occurence of a duplicate result, a result which occured as a consequence of two progressive [BE/GET + Ven] constructions being present in one sentence. As there were less than 100 results in total for progressive constructions in both English originals and translations, there was no available substitute for the duplicate result.

[26] By complexity in this case is not meant the definition given by Palmer (1987, pp. 21-28) of complex verb phrases where the complex verb phrase is a sequence of verb phrases in a superordinate-subordinate relationship. Rather multi-word verb phrases and verb phrases marked for aspect, which Palmer consider simple despite being packed with more grammatical funcion words, is an indicator of complexity herein.

phrase without as many grammatical items as that of the other passives and thus there is more possibility for other interpretations. Of course, it must be said that the frequency of the English passive found in my selection of material (and Table 4.2) gives no indication of the frequency of the English passive found in the total language data seen in Figure 4.1.

A visual representation of the frequency of passive Norwegian correspondence to the randomly selected constructions that have been identified as English passives is provided in Figure 4.2 below. There is a clear difference between English originals and translations in the selected material. The Norwegian passives corresponding to the translated English passives appear to match or follow the increase in frequency from simple to progressive passives. The frequency of passive Norwegian correspondences to English original passives seems to fluctuate considerably more, and this is particularly clear when we compare with English translations. Especially with the simple modal passives and progressive passives is there a clear difference between the selected original and translated language data. Within the confines of the 667 selected and analyzed [BE/GET + Ven] constructions there appears to a difference between passives in English original and translations and their Norwegian correspondences.

Figure 4.2: Frequency of the passive in Norwegian correspondences



4.3.2 The semantic classification of corresponding passive verbs

In the language data randomly selected and analyzed there are a total of 313 verbs which have classified into semantic domains. This number is slightly higher than the total number of corresponding English-Norwegian passives seen in Table 4.2 due to the occurrence of coordinated past participles in some passives. The full and complete classification of the verbs can be seen in the Appendix. The main purpose of this classification was, as mentioned, three-fold (*cf.* 3.5.2), the results of which are found detailed in the sections concerning specific English passives (*cf.* 4.4.2, 4.5.2, 4.6.2, and 4.7.2). However, there are some aspects of the semantic classification when presented in a larger perspective that do not come entirely to light in these specific and focused sections, and which I wish to address beforehand.

The first of these is the distribution of semantic domains employed in the classification when viewed as a whole. There were 313 verbs classified, and most of these are verbs of activity: 233, or 74 per cent. The remaining verbs are split between the other semantic domains in the following order: communication (10 per cent), mental (7.6 per cent), causative (3.2 per cent), occurrence (3.2 per cent), existence (0.6 per cent), and aspectual (0.6 per cent). The distribution of these in the selected material of fiction is to some extent comparable to the semantic classification of verbs in fiction as discussed by Biber et.al (1999, pp. 365-372), although activity verbs are slightly more frequent. This overview and orientation of the classified verbs found in the selected material is easily lost when they are looked at specifically in terms of their English passives and Norwegian correspondences.

In sections 4.4.2, 4.5.2, 4.6.2, and 4.7.2 the semantic classification of the verbs is presented as is. There the classification is purely focused on the three-fold examination outlined in the previous chapter (*cf.* 3.5.2). A consequence of this manner of presentation is that the problems and complications that occur when undertaking such a task of classification is lost, and indeed appears at times non-existent. But this is far from the actual case. Some examples of problems in the classification of verbs into semantic domains can be seen in examples (4.1) – (4.3).

(4.1) If you say you are a painter, you **will be looked at** strangely. (MA1)
Hvis du sier du er maler, **blir** du **sett rart på**.(MA1T)

(4.2) She talked about the Birmingham squat and the agreed tenancy there; about Manchester, where a slum scheduled for demolition **had been reprieved**, and became an officially recognised student residence. (DL2)

Hun snakket om Birmingham-okkupasjonen og avtalen de hadde fått med kommunen der, og om Manchester, der en rivningsgård **hadde blitt benådet** og endte som et godkjent hybelhus for studenter. (DL2T)

(4.3) He should have known, the leader of the Council of Elders, that he himself **has been portrayed** in the picture, that his evil is there together with all the others' in the colours of the background and in the shimmering light effect. (JW1T)

Han skulle ha visst det, lederen for de eldstes råd, at han selv **er malt inn** i bildet, at hans ondskap ligger sammen med alle andres i bakgrunnens farger og i det flimrende lyset. (JW1)

In example (4.1) the issue with *looked at* and *sett på* is that while they certainly are verbs of physical activity, they can also convey the process of mental perception or judgment of another person. In the case of (4.1) both interpretations are possible: you can literally receive strange looks for being a painter, or you may simply be judged negatively, or both; they are not mutually exclusive. The verbs *reprieved* and *benådet* in example (4.2) is a case where the question is between perceiving them as verbs of activity or communication. On the one hand, they are verbs of activity in a negative sense; the showing of mercy is not doing the intended activity. However, the decision not to carry out the acts of demolition requires some official intervention; the acts of mercy are also communicative in that a message of such precedes the activity. The last example is one where I have considered *portrayed* as verb of communication, but it cannot be separated entirely from the realm of physical activity. The corresponding Norwegian, however, is more activity oriented than communicative.

Another aspect of the task of classifying the selected material and passive verbs into semantic domains that is only visible in a larger perspective is that of figurative use of passive verbs. There is no particular pattern to be found in the occurrence of figurative use in terms of the types of passive and correspondences, but most appear to be found with verbs of activity. Such figurative use is twice as common in English originals (16) as in translations (8). The verbs *shoved* and *stuet* in example (4.4), which incidentally is one of the rare *get*-passives in the material, are examples of figurative use. They are verbs of activity, but it is also clear that

the opinion of the writer is being signaled through the use of hyperbole. In example (4.5) the verbs *played* and *drives* are used idiomatically, but even so these verbs are activity verbs. In the material these verbs have been classified as activity verbs, and all other cases of figurative language have also been classified according to the non-figurative understanding of the verb.

(4.4) It 's a surprise too that the school has survived, but when they were killing off all the grammar schools in this country and turning them into comprehensives and middle schools and sixth-form colleges, and everyone **was getting shoved** in with everyone else, there somehow wasn't anyone to shove St Edward's in with, and they sort of left us alone. (JB1)

Det er også heller overraskende at skolen har overlevd, men da de nedla alle grammar schools her i landet og gjorde dem om til comprehensies og middle schools og sixth-form colleges og alle **ble stuet** sammen med alle andre, var det liksom ingen å stue St Edwards sammen med, og derfor lot de oss være i fred. (JB1T)

(4.5) That a game **is being played** with people like her and Sven, that they **are being drained and used** and have not enough strength left to turn the game in their favour. (BV2T)

At det **drives** et spill med mennesker som henne og Sven, at de **blir tappet og brukt** og ikke har krefter igjen til å snu spillet. (BV2)

I have listed only a few examples, but I should emphasize that there were many cases of doubt and uncertainty in the process of classifying the material selected for investigation. There is no doubt that there are many verbs which may merit another or different classification as a result of being inherently polysemous, or from appearing in a particular context. As such, the classification discussed in following sections must be seen in light of this even though the sections themselves do not discuss the issues mentioned here.

4.4 The simple English passive and passive Norwegian correspondence

4.4.1 Frequency information of correspondences

The simple English passive, passives of the simple [BE/GET + Ven] construction (*cf.* 3.3.1), exhibits the lowest frequency of passives of the random selection (see Table 4.2). These are

English passives as seen in examples (4.6) – (4.9). Although in terms of correspondences in general there is a difference between English originals and English translations (see Table 4.2), there is much more similarity across originals and translations in terms of the distribution of the correspondences. It can be seen in Table 4.3 below that the Norwegian *bli*-passive is the most common Norwegian passive correspondence regardless of the frequency of Norwegian passive correspondence (65 per cent and 57 per cent) to original and translated simple English passives. In other words, the Norwegian *bli*-passive is the most common correspondence regardless of the direction of the translation.

(4.6) He escaped with a few minor burns but he **was singled out** for special merit in the report. (GS1T)
Han kom fra det med noen mindre brannsår, men han **ble nevnt** med heder i rapporten. (GS1)

(4.7) She stayed afloat out of habit, and **was used** as a training ship for future officers in the Navy. (KH1T)
Det fløt av gammel vane og **var tatt i bruk** som skoleskip for de framtidige offiserer i marinen. (KH1)

(4.8) "Tony Threadgold said, ""Yeah, after the Smiths **were chucked out**, the council cleaning squad 'ad to come in." (ST1)
"Ja jøss, sa Tony Threadgold. ""Etter atte Smith'ene **blei pælma ut**, rykka vedlikeholdsgutta fra kommunen inn med vernedresser og oksygenhjælmer og hele pakka." (ST1T)

(4.9) It seemed his tongue and mouth were drier, and more blunted, than they ought to be, though whether this **was caused** by laurel sap or by the juice of orange he could not tell. (JC1)
Det virket som tunga og munnen hans var tørrere og mer numne enn de burde være, skjønt om dette **skyldtes** laurbærsevje eller appelsinsaft kunne han ikke si. (JC1T)

Table 4.3: The distribution of correspondences to simple English passives

Corpus component	*Number of English passives*	*Corresponding Norwegian passives*	være-*passives*	bli-*passives*	s-*passives*	få-*passives*
English originals	46	30 (65 %)	5 (16 %)	19 (63 %)	6 (20 %)	0 (0 %)
English translations	40	23 (57 %)	9 (39 %)	11 (47 %)	3 (13 %)	0 (0 %)

The distribution seen in Table 4.3 can be described by means of a ranking scale. For English originals *bli*-passives outrank *s*-passives, and the *være*-passives come last: *bli*-passive > *s*-passive > *være*-passive. The ranking scale for English translations is one where *s*-passives and *være*-passives switch places on the scale. A ranking scale describing the correspondences between English simple passives and Norwegian passives in general terms is one where the frequency is averaged: *bli*-passives (56 %) > *være*-passives (26 %) > *s*-passives (16 %). However, with respect to English translations these ranking scales are slightly deceptive. The *bli*-passive is only the most frequent correspondence by a margin of two. The situation for English translations is one where the *bli*-passive and *være*-passive are closer to being equal than the *bli*-passive being comparable to English originals.

4.4.2 Semantic classification of simple passive verbs

As explained in the previous chapter (*cf.* 3.5.2), the purpose of the semantic classification of the passive verbs found in English-Norwegian passive correspondence is three-fold: to find the frequency of the semantic domains of passive verbs, to examine how congruent the corresponding passive verbs are in terms of their semantic domains, and to discover the contribution to the frequency of semantic domains in terms of passive English-Norwegian correspondence. This section and the following sections (4.5.2, 4.6.2, and 4.7.2) concerning the semantic classification of verbs with respect to the type of English passive aim to address these three points of interest.

Table 4.4: Distribution of verbs by semantic domains for English simple passives and correspondences

Corpus component	*Verbs*	*Activity*	*Communication*	*Mental*	*Causative*	*Occurrence*
English originals	30	15 (50 %)	6 (20 %)	3 (10 %)	3 (10 %)	3 (10 %)
English translations	25[27]	21 (+1) (84 %)	2 (8 %)	2 (-1) (8 %)	0 (0 %)	0 (0 %)

The verbs of simple English passives and their corresponding Norwegian passive verbs are most often verbs of activity in both English originals and translations. However, it is clear from Table 4.4 that the degree to which activity verbs are the most frequent differs between originals and translations (50 vs. 84 per cent). The semantic domains of corresponding passive English and Norwegian verbs found in English originals are more varied and less concentrated than those found in the translated English texts. The semantic domains of existence and aspect are not found in Table 4.4 as there are no aspectual verbs or verbs of existence found in English or Norwegian passives in either originals or translations.

On the whole, the corresponding passive verbs are quite congruent in both English originals and translations, meaning that the semantic domain of the passive English verb is shared by the corresponding passive Norwegian verb. In fact, with English originals the passive verbs are completely congruent in this respect, such as in examples (4.10) and (4.11). There are two cases to be found with the simple English passive where the passive verbs diverge and belong to different semantic domains, and both occur in translated text. This is indicated by (+1) and (-1) in the Table 4.4: there is one more activity verb in the Norwegian passive than found with the English passives, and one less mental verb. These are shown in example (4.12), where a mental verb in the English passive corresponds to a communication verb, and in example (4.13), where a communication verb corresponds to an activity verb. It is clear that there is some difficulty in classifying both English verbs and Norwegian verbs definitively. In the case of (4.12) the English verb is being used figuratively while the Norwegian verb is not, which may explain the different semantic domains. The last example is one where the verbs

[27] The number of verbs is higher than the number of corresponding Norwegian passives (23, as seen from Table 4.3) due to a passive verbal group with three coordinated past participle verbs. The verbs have been looked at individually when classified, but adds only one (1) to the total passive count.

are not related at all, and in fact we find the English verb occurring as a noun in Norwegian complementing the verb phrase (*etiketter*).

(4.10) We crept in from the back before the new houses **were built**. (JC1)
Vi krøyp inn fra baksiden før de nye husene **ble bygd**. (JC1T)

(4.11) Soon after, a decision **was made** that Celia would telephone her institutional acquaintances next day and, if they seemed cooperative, the Research Department would take it from there. (AH1)
Det **ble besluttet** at Celia skulle ringe sine forbindelser dagen etter, og hvis de var samarbeidsvillige, skulle forskningsavdelingen overta. (AH1T).

(4.12) He escaped with a few minor burns but he **was singled out** for special merit in the report. (GS1T)
Han kom fra det med noen mindre brannsår, men han **ble nevnt** med heder i rapporten. (GS1)

(4.13) The truth is that it 's sent on to Rome, more precisely to the Vatican State, where it **'s bottled, labelled, and stored** in cellars. (JW1T)
Sannheten er at den sendes videre til Roma, nærmere bestemt til Vatikanstaten, der den **tappes** på flasker, **forsynes** med etiketter, og **lagres** i kjellere. (JW1)

It is not revealed through Table 4.4 (and thus subsequent tables of this type in the following sections) which type of English-Norwegian passive correspondence is the source or can be considered the primary contributor of the different semantic domains into which the passive verbs have been classified. A difference exists between English originals and English translations where the activity verbs are concerned. In English originals the activity verbs are mostly (11 of 15) found with those English passives corresponding to *bli*-passives, and the remaining four split evenly between *være*-passives and *s*-passives. The situation is quite different for English translations: *bli*-passives and *være*-passives as correspondences contribute nine activity verbs each. Norwegian *bli*-passives are the most frequent passive correspondence in both English originals and translations (Table 4.3), but only in original

texts are most activity verbs found in tandem with the most frequent type of correspondence. Also interesting to note is that the *være*-passives as correspondences in English translations are all activity verbs. The *være*-passives as correspondences in English originals occur with verbs of activity, communication, and a causative verb. In short, the *bli*-passives and *være*-passives diverge in English originals and English translations in terms of their contribution to the semantic domains present with the English simple passive through their status as correspondences.

4.5 The simple modal English passive and passive Norwegian correspondence

4.5.1 Frequency information of correspondences

With the simple modal English passive, passives of the construction [modal aux. + *be/get* + Ven], we find that there is a shift in correspondence. The most frequent passive correspondence is Norwegian *s*-passives rather than *bli*-passives. The Norwegian *bli*-passive is, however, the second most frequent type of Norwegian passive corresponding to these modal passives. They can be seen in examples (4.14) – (4.17).

(4.14) If Macon were condemned to death, she 'd said once, and they told him he **'d be executed** by firing squad at dawn, he would no doubt still insist on flossing the night before. (AT1)

Hvis Macon ble dømt til døden, sa hun en gang, og de sa til ham at han **skulle skytes** ved soloppgang, ville han sikkert insistere på å bruke tanntråd kvelden før. (AT1T)

(4.15) Nevertheless, he got the principle accepted that an expedition **should be equipped and sent** to the South Pole as soon as the money was available. (KH1T)

Han har likevel fått drevet igjennom et prinsippvedtak om at en ekspedisjon **skal rustes ut og sendes** til Sydpollandet så snart pengene er skaffet. (KH1)

(4.16) Once she was installed in her bed her talking stopped; soon the moans began again, and in the short intervals between them her face **would be contorted** by frowns, as if someone or something were giving her intense displeasure. (AB1)

Da hun var kommet til sengs, sluttet hun å snakke. Snart begynte jamringen igjen, og i de korte pausene som oppsto, **ble** ansiktet hennes **fordreid** av grimaser, som om noe eller noen vekket en intens uvilje hos henne. (AB1T)

(4.17) Nobody will believe it of him, yet he is to blame, he 'd written, but now he no longer knew whether the message **would be found** and the whole thing became simply absurd — the crevice before him was absurd, the fact that he **would never be found** was absurd. (KA1T)

Ingen vil tro det om ham, men det er han som er den skyldige, hadde han skrevet, men nå visste han ikke lenger om beskjeden **ville bli funnet**, og da var jo alt sammen meningsløst, sprekken foran ham var meningsløs, det at han aldri **ville bli funnet** var meningsløst. (KA1)

Table 4.5: The distribution of correspondences to simple modal English passives

Corpus component	*Number of English passives*	*Corresponding Norwegian passives*	*være-passives*	*bli-passives*	*s-passives*	*få-passives*
English originals	79	42 (52 %)	2 (4 %)	16 (38 %)	23 (54 %)	1 (2 %)
English translations	73	47 (64 %)	1 (2 %)	14 (29 %)	31 (66 %)	1 (2 %)

Although both *være*-passives and *få*-passives occur as correspondence to the simple modal passive, they are rare enough to say with a certain degree of confidence that in both directions of translation the *s*-passives and the *bli*-passives are the typical correspondence in the material extracted from the ENPC. From an English perspective this change might seem induced by the addition of a modal auxiliary to the passive verbal group of the simple passive. As was mentioned in Chapter 2 (*cf.* 2.4), when the Norwegian passive occurs with a modal auxiliary the *s*-passive is the usual choice (Faarlund et al., 1997, p. 515), and so the distribution of correspondence seen in Table 4.5 is not extraordinary, but rather what one might expect.

The *s*-passives and *bli*-passives can be distinguished in terms of the modal auxiliaries with which they occur.[28] Although both occur with various modal auxiliaries, they stand apart

[28] Tense is also a possible factor as *s*-passives are usually infinitive or in the present, and only rarely in the past tense (Faarlund et al., 1997, p. 513). The *bli*-passive is not subject to such a restriction in use. I have not extensively examined this factor.

according to which modal auxiliaries they occur most frequently with. The *s*-passives occur most frequently with the modal auxiliaries *can – could* and *kan – kunne*. The *bli*-passives occur most frequently with the auxiliaries *will – would* and *vil – ville*. In the random selection examined these two Norwegian passives as correspondences never occur with the most frequent modal auxiliary of the other; no *bli*-passives occur with *kan – kunne*, and no *s*-passives occur with *vil – ville*. This distinction is perhaps the root cause of why the *s*-passive does not correspond more frequently to the simple modal English passive. A periphrastic Norwegian passive with the modal auxiliaries *skal* and *vil* expresses a temporal meaning (future time), whereas the *s*-passive expresses a modal meaning (Faarlund et al., 1997, p. 515). Most, if not all, of the *bli*-passives could occur as *s*-passives, but as we see in examples (4.18) and (4.19) an *s*-passive would change the meaning expressed. In both of these examples the change to an *s*-passive from the *bli*-passive would express the desire or wish to close the bar and publish the article rather than the fact that both will come to pass in an unspecified period of time.

(4.18) As well as all this, the New England Journal of Medicine informed Andrew that, subject to certain revisions his article on Lotromycin **would be publishe**d in due course. (AH1)

Nå opplyste New England Journal of Medicine at Andrews artikkel om Lotromycin **ville bli offentliggjort** med visse endringer. (AH1T)

(s-passive: at Andrews artikkel om Lotromycin ville offentliggjøres med visse endringer)

(4.19) They were interrupted by a stewardess announcing they would land in New York in forty minutes, the bar **would be closed** soon, and meanwhile would they like drinks? (AH1)

De ble avbrutt av høyttaleren, som opplyste at de ville lande om førti minutter, at baren snart **ville bli stengt**, og om passasjerene ville ha en drink til. (AH1T)

(s-passive: at baren ville snart stenges, og om passasjerene ville ha den drink til)

We have, then, a reasonable explanation for the frequency at which the *bli*-passive occurs as a correspondence to the simple modal English passive, and why it occurs as frequently as it

does with the modal auxiliaries *will – would* and *vil – ville.*[29] On the other hand, the fact that in the material obtained and examined the *s*-passive as correspondence never occurs with *vil – ville* is perplexing. The *s*-passive can certainly occur in combination with *vil – ville*. It occurs, as mentioned, most frequently with *kan – kunne,* and these Norwegian modal auxiliaries are the most frequent in the Norwegian original and translated texts in the ENPC, numbering 4565 in total. The modal auxiliaries *vil – ville* are the second most frequent at 3377. I think we could reasonably expect to find *s*-passives in combination with *vil – ville* in the Norwegian texts in the ENPC.[30] I can offer no explanation for why *s*-passives with the modal auxiliaries *vil – ville* do not occur as correspondences to simple modal English passives other than to say that they do not.

4.5.2 Semantic classification of modal passive verbs

The simple modal English passives have been examined separately from the simple passives, but they can nonetheless be considered related to simple passives. The examination of the semantic domains of corresponding passive English and Norwegian verbs also entails an element of comparison with simple passives (*cf.* section 4.4.2). As was the case with the passive verbs in the simple passives, most passive verbs found in the verbal group of simple modal passives are verbs of activity. However, the extent to which this is the case is quite similar in original and translated texts (71 vs. 73 per cent), and in this regard the simple passives and simple modal passives differ. The similarity between English originals and English translation extends to the realm of variety: in both types of texts four other semantic domains are present, the quantity of which is quite similar. There are thirteen non-activity verbs in both English originals and translations (28 and 26 per cent respectively), and so the number of non-activity semantic domains is similar in both variety and quantity.

[29] Note also that the rarity of *bli*-passives with *kan – kunne* is documented by Engdahl (1999, pp. 15-17), who also attributes the cause of the phenomenon to the different modal interpretations *bli*-passives and *s*-passive incur with these auxiliaries.

[30] Although a search for *vil* and *ville* immediately followed by a Norwegian word with an *–s* or *–st* ending in Norwegian originals and translations for both fiction and non-fiction texts yields only 79 results. Although I can not say how many of these are *s*-passives, the fact that the 54 *s*-passives in Table 4.5 never occurred with *vil* or *ville* may be used to tentatively suggest a prognosis of few *s*-passives among those 79 results.

Table 4.6: Distribution of verbs by semantic domains for simple modal English passives and correspondences

Corpus component	*Verbs*	*Activity*	*Communication*	*Mental*	*Causative*	*Occurrence*	*Existence*	*Aspectual*
English originals	45	32 (+1) (71 %)	3 (+1) (7 %)	7 (-1) (15 %)	2(-1) (4 %)	0 (0 %)	0 (0 %)	1 (2 %)
English translations	49	36 (+1) (73 %)	5 (10 %)	5 (10 %)	0 (0 %)	1 (-1) (2 %)	2 (4%)	0 (0 %)

As was the case with the simple English passive, the passive verbs in simple modal English passives and the corresponding Norwegian passives have matching semantic domains more often than not. There are two cases in English originals where the passive verbs belong to different semantic domains: one is mental – activity (*chosen – plukket*), and the second causative – communication seen in example (4.20). In English translations there is one case only where the semantic domains of the corresponding passives verb differ. In example (4.21) the occurrence verb *increased* corresponds to the activity verb *lagt på.*

(4.20) You **may be required** to give evidence at the inquest, but it'll be a formality. (MW1)

De **blir kanskje innkalt** for å vitne ved likskuet, men det er en formalitet. (MW1T)

(4.21) They would discuss which kind of roses were most resistant to the dryness of summer, which spring plants produced the most flowers, whether the watering charge **would be increased**, and how often one really ought to go to the cemetery, one's age and state of health taken into consideration. (BV1T)

Deretter gled samtalen naturlig over til kirkegården, de diskuterte hvilke rosesorter som tålte sommertørken best, hvilke vårplanter som var mest blomsterrike, om vanningsavgiften **ville bli lagt på** og hvor ofte man strengt tatt burde gå på kirkegården, alderen og almentilstanden tatt i betraktning. (BV1)

In terms of the type of passive English-Norwegian correspondence of simple modal passives and their contribution to the semantic domains seen in Table 4.6 there is similarity to be found

between English originals and translations. For verbs of activity, communication, and mental events the pattern of contribution is the same: *s*-passives before *bli*-passives. With verbs of communication this is minimally so with a difference of one (2 vs. 1 for originals and 3 vs. 2 for translations), but for activity and communication verbs the verbs found in English passives with corresponding *s*-passives constitute the majority. Almost all the mental verbs come from *s*-passive correspondence, and for activity verbs the share is 18 and 24 for originals and translations respectively in favor of *s*-passives. This is a rather different situation from that seen with the simple passives examined above.

4.6 The perfective English passive and passive Norwegian correspondence

4.6.1 Frequency information of correspondences

Passives of the type [HAVE + *been/got(ten)* + Ven], or English perfective passives, have mostly *være*-passives and *bli*-passives as correspondences. The precise distribution is shown in Table 4.7, and in both directions of translation the *være*-passive is the most frequent correspondence, although less decisively so in English original texts. A similarity between English originals and translations is the absence of *s*-passives and scarcity of *få*-passives as correspondences in the material investigated.

Table 4.7:The distribution of correspondences to perfective English passives

Corpus component	*Number of English passives*	*Corresponding Norwegian passives*	*være-passives*	*bli-passives*	*s-passives*	*få-passives*
English originals	96	65 (67 %)	33 (50 %)	31 (47 %)	0 (0 %)	1 (1.5 %)
English translations	83	59 (71 %)	34 (57 %)	24 (40 %)	0 (0 %)	1 (1.6 %)

As correspondences to the English perfective passive the Norwegian *være*-passives and *bli*-passives can be differentiated by their complexity as well as their raw frequency. Of the 67 corresponding *være*-passives in English originals and translations, only five are complex, meaning they are explicitly marked for the perfect with *HA*. The *bli*-passives as correspondence are explicitly marked for the perfect in 45 of the 55 cases with either *HA* or

VÆRE as the aspectual marker. Typical *være*-passives and *bli*-passives as correspondences are seen in examples (4.22) – (4.25), and in (4.26) and (4.27) we have atypical *være*-passive and *bli*-passive correspondences. The lack of explicit aspectual marking of the corresponding *være*-passives has the effect of making them indistinguishable from the *være*-passives corresponding to simple English passives (compare examples (4.22) and (4.23) with example (4.7)). When looking at English passives and their correspondences in isolation this situation is unproblematic, but in a wider perspective it might make the boundary of the *være*-passive as correspondence appear fuzzy seen from the perspective of English.

(4.22) A large bed **had been left** in it. (DL1)
En stor seng **var etterlatt** der. (DL1T)

(4.23) As if some pressure **had been removed**. (EHA1T)
Det var som et trykk **var opphevet**, jeg kunne puste fritt, kunne være meg selv. (EHA1)

(4.24)[31] It figured: The U.S Open **had been recommended** by a reader. (AT1)
I guiden stod: U.S Open **er blitt anbefalt** av en leser. (AT1T)

(4.25) A woman in her late twenties **had been stabbed** in a little backyard apartment. (FC1T)
En kvinne i slutten av tyveårene **var blitt stukket ned** i en liten bakgårdsleilighet. (FC1)

(4.26) The flat in the Compayne Gardens **had been filled** with black furniture of a convoluted nature, so that every bureau and credenza, of which there had been several, looked as if they **had been designed** by the Brothers Grimm. (AB1)
Leiligheten I Compayne Garden **hadde vært fylt** med sorte møbler av innviklet karakter, slik at hver eneste skatoll og sidebord, som det hadde vært opptil flere av, så ut som de **var laget** av brødrene Grimm. (AB1T)

[31] This happens to be one of the rare cases in the material where the passive correspondence also includes a shift in tense .

(4.27) It was posted almost a day after the girl **had been murdered**. (FC1T)

Hvis De ser nøye på det brevet, vil De oppdage noe eiendommelig, nemlig at det ble postlagt nesten et døgn efter at den unge kvinnen **ble drept**. (FC1)

4.6.2 Semantic classification of perfective passive verbs

The passive verbs found in perfective English passives are most often activity verbs by a considerable margin, as can be seen in Table 4.8 below. The degree to which activity verbs are most frequent is quite similar in both English originals and translations, although not to the extent seen with the simple modal passives in section 4.5.2. Even so, the total population of activity verbs is much higher. With respect to non-activity verbs the situation is not quite the same as seen with the simple modal passives, where the variety was similar between English originals and translations and slightly in favor of the originals in terms of quantity. All seven semantic domains are not represented due to the absence of verbs of existence, and the quantity of non-activity verbs is lower in English originals by 10 per cent (17 vs 27 per cent).

Table 4.8: Distribution of verbs by semantic domains for perfective English passives and correspondences

Corpus component	*Verbs*	*Activity*	*Communication*	*Mental*	*Causative*	*Occurrence*	*Aspectual*
English originals	66	55 (-2) (83 %)	3 (+1) (5 %)	3 (5 %)	0 (0 %)	4 (+1) (6 %)	1 (1.5 %)
English translations	61	45 (+3) (73 %)	8 (±2) (13 %)	2 (3 %)	5 (-3) (8 %)	1 (1.5 %)	0 (0 %)

The corresponding passive English and Norwegian verbs are still quite congruent. There are only five cases in English translations and two in English originals where the corresponding verbs do not share the same semantic classification. This is an increase from the number seen with the simple modal passives, albeit a small one, but also an increase that should be seen in the light of the fact that the number of passive verbs has increased substantially. There are a total of 33 more passive verbs found with the perfective passives, 21 of which are with English originals and 12 with English translations. In other words, it appears the rate of

matching semantic classification of corresponding passive English and Norwegian verbs is higher than that of non-matching verbs.

The source of the passive verbs in their semantic classification is similar to that found with the simple passive examined in 4.4.2. With the perfective English passive the *være*-passive is the most frequent correspondence followed closely by the *bli*-passive (Table 4.7), and these are the major contributors to activity, communication, and mental verbs. The only real difference between English originals and translations in this respect is that with English originals the activity verbs are found most frequently in English passives with corresponding *bli*-passives; there are 27 activity verbs from *bli*-passives, but 26 from *være*-passives. This is not the case with English translations: the *være*-passive is the most frequent corresponding Norwegian passive by almost twenty per cent, and this is reflected in the source of activity verbs. In fact, the relationship is rather similar: the *bli*-passives to *være*-passive ratio is 1:3 (24 divided by 34), and the ratio is the same for activity verbs in terms of *være*-passive and *bli*-passives as contributors (18 divided by 26).

There is another common element between English originals and translations that I wish to point out. The rarer types of semantic domains, in this case the causative, occurrence, and aspectual verbs are almost all found in perfective English passives that have *være*-passives as correspondences. The exceptions are two causative verbs that stem from *bli*-passive correspondence. This is actually a reversal from the situation seen with English original[32] simple passives; there all the occurrence verbs are found with *bli*-passive correspondence and the causative verbs with *være*-passive and *s*-passive correspondence. The simple modal English passives represent somewhat of a middle ground due to the fact that all the rare semantic domains causative, occurrence, existence, and aspectual are all found equally with *være*-passives, *bli*-passives, and *s*-passives. However, the overall frequencies of these rare semantic domains (causative, occurrence, existence, and aspectual) are all very low and so it is difficult to say if there is a real pattern here.

4.7 The progressive English passive and passive Norwegian correspondence

[32] I mention English originals specifically because in English translations the verbs were only of the type activity, communication, and mental (see Table 4.4)

4.7.1 Frequency information of correspondences

The number of [BE + *being/getting* + Ven] constructions found in the ENPC was low (see Figure 4.1). Despite their scarcity, most of these constructions were cases of the progressive passive (see Table 4.2); for both English originals and English translations over ninety per cent of the constructions in the random selection were in the passive voice. The distribution of passive Norwegian correspondence is shown in Table 4.9, and in terms of frequencies there are two facts I wish to mention. First, the *bli*-passive is the clear-cut most frequent correspondence by a considerable margin in both directions of translation in the material investigated. Secondly, there is a considerable difference in frequency of passive correspondence (20 per cent) between English originals and translations.

Table 4.9: The distribution of correspondences to progressive English passives

Corpus component	*Number of English passives*	*Corresponding Norwegian passives*	*være-passives*	*bli-passives*	*s-passives*	*få-passives*
English originals	41	21 (51 %)	2 (9 %)	18 (85 %)	1 (4.5 %)	0 (0 %)
English translations	21	15 (71 %)	0 (0 %)	11 (73 %)	4 (26 %)	0 (0 %)

The *bli*-passive appears to be the default option in the process English → Norwegian when the passive voice is retained in both languages, although the English passive is only translated into a Norwegian passive in half of all cases. Norwegian has no grammatical construction for the progressive aspect, and the *bli*-passives lack any function word to mark aspect; they are simple (e.g. examples (4.28) – (4.30)). As with the *være*-passives corresponding to English perfective passives, the *bli*-passives corresponding to progressive passives are indistinguishable from *bli*-passives corresponding to simple English passives in terms of their verbal groups (compare examples (4.28) – (4.30) with (4.6) or (4.8)).

(4.28) She looked carefully at Bert, at Jasper, and at Alice, and Alice knew she **was being seen**. (DL2)
Hun så oppmerksomt på Bert, på Jasper, og på Alice, og Alice visste at hun **ble sett**, nå. (DL2T)

(4.29) It 's all my fault and I **am being punished**. (FW1)
Det er bare min feil, og jeg **blir straffet**. (FW1T)

(4.30) Something **was being announced** inside. (KAL1T)
Et eller annet **ble lest opp** der inne. (KAL1)

4.7.2 Semantic classification of progressive passive verbs

As is the case with the other English passives above, activity verbs are the most frequent with progressive passives. In both originals and translations they are so by a considerable margin and in a similar manner. There is also less variety with only four different semantic domains represented. However, there were few [BE + *being/getting* + Ven] constructions and even fewer of them were in the passive voice, and so the situation as depicted in Table 4.10 is rather limited in depth.

Table 4.10: Distribution of verbs by semantic domains for progressive English passives and correspondences

Corpus component	*Verbs*	*Activity*	*Communication*	*Mental*	*Occurrence*
English originals	21	15 (-1) (71 %)	3 (+1) (14 %)	2 (10 %)	1 (5 %)
English translations	16	14 (87.5 %)	2 (12.5 %)	0 (0 %)	0 (0 %)

The corresponding passive English and Norwegian verbs have matching semantic domains in all but one case. The ratio of matching to non-matching semantic domains between the passive correspondences is hard to interpret as very salient given the limited language data on the progressive passive, but it bears pointing out that it fits the trend highlighted in section 4.6.2: the passive verbs match semantic domains more than they do not, and so the present situation is in line with what we might expect.

Bli-passives are by far the most common correspondence in the material investigated, and so it is not surprising that for activity verbs as well as others the progressive passives with *bli-*

correspondence is the primary source of verbs. The lone verb of occurrence is found with *bli*-passive correspondence as well.

4.8 Passive-active English-Norwegian correspondence

There are 178 cases in the random selection investigated where an English passive of a [BE/GET + Ven] construction has an active Norwegian construction as its correspondence instead of a passive one. As we have seen in the previous sections, the translation of passives in one language into a passive in the other is entirely possible and happens with varying frequencies. This section takes a closer look at those cases where the translation is instead between passive and active. As mentioned in the previous chapter (*cf.* 3.5.3), the focus is on the verbal group when taking a closer look at such passive-active English-Norwegian correspondences. In other words, what is the relation between the verbal groups with the respect to the main verb, how transparent is this relation, and how can the "change" be described? The results of this examination is shown in Table 4.11, where the 178 cases are spread across five general categories descriptive of the relationship between the passive English verbal group and the active Norwegian verbal group. In general terms, the verbal transformations are closest in relation and most transparent, while at the other end we find the zeroes, or cases which bear at best minimal relation to the corresponding English passive.

Table 4.11: Overview of active correspondences to English passives

Corpus component	*Number*	*Verbal transformation*	*Lexical transformation*	*Converse verbs*	*Rewritten*	*Zero*
English originals	104	29 (28 %)	18 (17 %)	15 (14 %)	41 (39 %)	1 (1 %)
English translations	74	18 (24 %)	11 (15 %)	9 (12 %)	28 (38 %)	8 (10 %)
Total	178	47 (26 %)	29 (16 %)	24 (13 %)	69 (39 %)	9 (5 %)

The five categories shall be discussed individually, but before doing so I wish to point out that there are only small differences between English originals and translations in such passive-active correspondences. The largest absolute difference is twelve and found with the rewritten passive-active correspondences, but the frequency of rewritten correspondences is very similar between English originals and translations. With the zeroes we find a large difference in frequency of almost ten per cent, but the total count of such cases is so low that it is

impossible to draw any conclusions. In general terms there is little difference between English original and translated texts when it comes to passive-active English-Norwegian correspondences in the random selection of results analyzed.

4.8.1 Verbal transformations

The verbal transformations are those cases of passive-active correspondence where the main verb in passive verbal group is retained in the active Norwegian construction as a verb. There are three types of such verbal transformation: explicit, infinitive, and a special *VÆRE + i ferd med* type that only occurs in Norwegian correspondences to English progressive passives. Of these three the explicit verbal transformations stands in closest relation to the passive English verbal group. Examples of such explicit cases can be seen in (4.31) – (4.34), and in total there are 42 such cases. As can be seen from the examples, the **Ven** element of passive verbal group is the main verb in the active Norwegian construction, either in the simple past or present as in (4.31) and (4.32), or as the **Ven** element of a complex perfect Norwegian construction as in (4.33) and (4.34).

(4.31) Something also remains when the fire **is extinguished**. (JG1T)
Så blir noe liggende igjen når bålet **slokner**. (JG1)

(4.32) The point **was discussed**. (DL2)
Vi **diskuterte** den siden av det. (DL2T)

(4.33) The embroidered sheets **had been bleached** on the snow in April. (KF2T)
Mellomverk og laken **hadde bleket** seg på snoen i april. (KF2).

(4.34) He **had been persuaded** by lawyers not to go intestate, and he had given in to them, and as far as they knew, that was the only will he had ever made. (DF1)
Advokatene **hadde overtalt** ham til ikke å dra uten testament, og det ble til at han føyde dem. Det var det eneste testamentet han i sitt liv hadde satt opp, så vidt de visste. (DL1T)

There are three instances where the verbal transformation is such that the **Ven** element found in the passive English verbal group is retained as an infinitive in the corresponding

Norwegian active construction. The relationship between the English **Ven** and the corresponding Norwegian infinitive is not as strong and clear as in the examples (4.31) – (4.34) above due to the differing finite status.

(4.35) But a lesser fortune, though still a substantial one, **might be discovered** among the young ladies from the Colonies. (RDA1)
Men en noen mindre formue, skjønt stor nok, var kanskje **å finne** blant de unge damer fra koloniene. (RDA1T)

(4.36) As though there were a crack in her that **could be opened and searched**. (HW2T)
Som om der fantes en sprekk i henne til **å åpne og finne** noe i. (HW2)

The last type of verbal transformation is the *VÆRE + i ferd med* type, which occurs exclusively with passive-active correspondences in English progressive passives, and only twice in all the selected material. An example can be seen in (4.37), and the corresponding Norwegian verb can be found as part of an infinitive construction complementing the verb phrase.

(4.37) And they laughed again — Butch heartily and Mattie reluctantly — because she realized that she **was being drawn** into a conversation with a man her father had repeatedly warned her against. (GN1)
Og de lo igjen — Butch hjertelig og Mattie nølende — for hun var klar over at hun **var** i ferd med å bli trukket inn i samtale med en mann faren hennes hadde advart henne mot mer enn én gang. (GN1T)

4.8.2 Lexical transformations

The lexical transformations are those cases of passive-active correspondence where the main verb of the passive English verbal group ceases to be a verb in the corresponding Norwegian language. If it were not for the fact that the English verb is occasionally changed into something other than a noun the most appropriate term to describe the situation might be nominalization. Most often the English verb in question is changed to a noun, such as in example (4.38), but at other times into an adjective as in (4.39). Lexical transformations into

nouns and adjectives constitute the majority at thirteen and nine respectively out of the 29 cases. The transformation of the English verb into an adverb occurs only once, and can be seen in example (4.40). Another unique lexical transformation is one where **Ven** is found as a preposition, which is shown in example (4.41). In all these lexical transformations the relation with the passive English verb is lessened through the change in word class, but how this happens is still readily apparent.

(4.38) It **was agreed** that while approaches could not be made as a group of the C.C.U., it would be permissible for a group of C.C.U. members to make the approach, as associated individuals. (DL2)

"Det **ble** enighet om at vi ikke kunne stå fram som en gruppe innafor C.C.U., men det er ikke noe i veien for at en gruppe C.C.U.-medlemmer kan ta et sånt initiativ som enkeltpesoner. """ (DL2T)

(4.39) "This means pregnant women would be taking it, and it '**s usually advised** that pregnancy is not a time for experimenting in any way."""" (AH1)

""""Dette vil si at gravide ville ta den, og vanligvis **er** det **ikke** tilrådelig å eksperimentere på noen som helst måte i svangerskapstiden."""" (AH1T)

(4.40) She **is said** to have taken part later in the siege of Perpignan as a new Joan of Arc, sticking it out until autumn came with cold and rain and the army turned northwards again. (SL1T)

Siden deltok hun **visstnok** i beleiringen av Perpignan som en ny Jeanne d'Arc, helt til høsten kom med kulde og regn, og hæren vendte nordover igjen. (SL1)

(4.41) I was forty-two years old and I'**d been exposed** to a bit of everything, during the war, for instance. (GS1T)

Jeg var 42 år gammel og hadde vært **gjennom** litt av hvert, under krigen for eksempel. (GS1)

A special subtype of lexical transformation is occasionally found in passive-active correspondence between English progressive passives and Norwegian. Seen in example (4.42), the English verb is found in a [*VÆRE* + *under* + Noun] construction. This type of

lexical transformation occurs five times in the selected material that has been analyzed, and the English verb is always found as a noun after *under*. It can perhaps be perceived as a special type of nominalization of the passive English verb.

(4.42) "All we need is a statement, in writing, that the case **is being considered**, to show the police, that 's all." (DL2)
"Alt vi trenger, er en skriftlig erklæring om at saken **er** under behandling, så har vi noe å vise politifolkene, det ville hjelpe." (DL2T)

4.8.3 Converse and rewritten correspondences

The converse and rewritten correspondences to English passives are less clear-cut categories. The first three of examples (4.43) – (4.48) below are converse correspondences and the latter three rewritten. The converse verbs are those that can be said to approach the action from the other end. As a category of correspondence to English passive it is distinguished by the fact that that it does not retain or change the English verb used in the passive voice, but rather introduces a new, related verb. The line between these and the rewritten Norwegian correspondences is sometimes not clear. The rewritten correspondences restate the propositional content found in the English passive, but they also omit the English verb present in the passive verbal group. However, I have not been able to discern any patterns or particular behavior of the same vein as the previous two categories within converse and rewritten correspondence. The lone exception to this can be seen in (4.45): *BE + given* occurs eight times with *FÅ* as its active Norwegian correspondence, but this is a frequent type of converse correspondence rather than a special type among the random samples.

(4.43) "Utz's father **was killed** on the Somme in 1916, not before he had redeemed the family honour by winning Germany's highest military decoration ""Pour le Mérite""." (BC1)
"Utz' far **falt** ved Somme i 1916, men før det hadde han reddet familiens ære ved å bli hedret med Tysklands høyeste militære dekorasjon, ""Pour""Pour le Mérite." (BC1T)

(4.44) But the effort was too much for her and as our canoe **was driven** ashore, she collapsed altogether. (BO1)
Men anstrengelsen var for stor for henne, og idet vi **nådde** land, falt hun sammen. (BO1T)

(4.45) Francis **was given** a good, safe hand at birth, but two or three times he had a chance to draw, and every time he seems to have drawn the joker. (RDA1)

Francis **fikk** gode kort på hånden da han ble født, men to eller tre ganger fikk han sjansen til å trekke, og hver eneste gang ser det ut til at han trakk jokeren. (RDA1T)

(4.46) Passengers were boarding, cargo **was being loaded**, and up on the decks people could be seen moving like termites on the great body of the ship, the morning sun making the metal and glass glint and tremble with light. (EFH1T)

Passasjerer og last **kom** ombord. Oppe på dekkene kunne man se menneskene bevege seg, som utøy på den store skipskroppen. Morgensolen traff skipet og fikk alt metall og glass til å glimte og bevre i lys. (EFH1T)

(4.47) If their positions **had been reversed**, she knew she would have been furious. (EG1T)

Petter hadde hverken rast eller brølt eller kommet med noen form for beskyldninger da han oppdaget at hun var skyld i all miseren, enda hun selv mest sannsynlig ville gått fullstendig fra konseptene hvis hun **hadde vært i Petters sko**! (EG1)

(4.48) Nothing **should be done** to arouse that implacable beast, the bureaucrat. (DL2)

Det **var best å ikke ta sjansen** på å tirre dette uforsonlige uhyret: Byråkraten. (DL2T)

4.8.4 Zero correspondences

The zero passive-active correspondence is a small group, numbering only nine in total. From the examples (4.49) and (4.50) their prime property is clear: they relay to some degree the propositional content expressed by the English passive, but there is no trace of the passive verb group in the Norwegian sentence, and as such the relationship with the corresponding English verbal group is weak and opaque.

(4.49) And when I got back to the dining-room, everyone had left and the tables **were being cleared**. (EG1T)
Da jeg kom tilbake til spisesalen, var alle damene gått. (EG1)

(4.50) Rudolf found himself disliking the place from the start, partly because of the incongruity of the name (there was n't a rosebush to be seen, at least not at the front or sides), but more especially because he felt he **'d been called out** on what would probably prove to be a wild goose chase when by rights he should have been at home sitting down to a plate of steak and onions. (EG2T)
Førstebetjent Rudolf Nilsen var forutinntatt på grunn av det malplasserte navnet og også en aldri så liten tanke sur, fordi han heller ikke denne lørdagen skulle få innta sin middag til avtalt tid. (EG2)

4.9 A word on *GET*-passives and *få*-passives

It is clear from the tables in sections 4.4 through 4.7 that there are very few *få*-passives. There are only four to be found in the entire material of random samples, none of which correspond to an English *get*-passive. There are few *få*-passives in the ENPC in general, possibly no more than 49 (Ebeling, 2003, p. 229), and so it is not surprising that so few turn up given the selection method (*cf.* 3.4). *GET* only occurs as a passive auxiliary in the material six times, and given these low numbers it is hardly surprising that is not possible to show any relationship between them. The four *få*-passives correspond to a simple modal English passive and two perfective passives, and an example of each can be seen in (4.51) and (4.52)

(4.51) The Colonel slid the paper back into the thin black case and continued: "You **'ll be served** breakfast at seven-thirty. (JM1T)
Han smøyg papiret tilbake i den flate, svarte mappa og fortsatte å snakke: "De **vil få servert** frokost klokken halv åtte. (JM1)

(4.52) He could take no pleasure from the company of the small, aged people — "ex-colons" whose digestion **had been wrecked** in Africa or Indo-China — clinging to their raffia-covered "gobelets de cure" and taking slow, careful steps, out of the rain, under the covered walkway that runs beside the Rue du Parc. (BC1)

Han hadde ingen fornøyelse av å være sammen med de små, eldre menneskene — "ex-colons""ex-colons", hjemvendte kolonister som **hadde fått** fordøyelsen **ødelagt** i Afrika eller Indokina; de klamret seg til sine basttrukne "gobelets"gobelets de cure" og trippet langsomt og forsiktig, i ly for regnet, på den overbygde promenaden som går parallelt med Rue du Parc. (BC1T)

5 Conclusion

5.1 Summary

The aim of this thesis was to investigate the English passive and its Norwegian correspondences. The investigation is limited to certain finite [BE/GET + Ven] forms found in English original and translated fiction of the English-Norwegian Parallel Corpus. This language data collected has been subjected to a three-fold analysis after being randomly selected from the total population. The language data has been assessed for its passive status in both English and Norwegian, and from there frequency information regarding the passive and type of Norwegian correspondence was obtained. English-Norwegian passive correspondence has also been classified semantically by categorizing the passive verbs into different domains of meaning. The purpose of this classification was to discover (a) the frequency of the different semantic domains in English-Norwegian passive correspondence, (b) the degree to which corresponding English and Norwegian passive verbs are congruent, or matching, in terms of semantic domains, and (c) which type of English-Norwegian passive correspondence is the source or contributor to the semantic domains with which the verbs occur, and whether English originals and translations differ in this regard. Lastly, the passive-active English-Norwegian correspondence has been examined in an attempt to describe the change or event that occurs in the transition from passive to active from English to Norwegian.

It is not possible to generalize very much about passive correspondence in the English originals and translated texts of the ENPC given the randomly selected and examined material is only a small portion of that found in the corpus. However, in the selected material examined there was a clear difference between originals and translations with respect to the frequency of passive Norwegian correspondences. Despite this difference in frequency the type of Norwegian correspondences to the English passives examined appears very similar in both original and translated texts. The simple English passive and its correspondences were most frequently *bli*-passives. The simple modal English passives and its correspondences were most frequently *s*-passives, followed by *bli*-passives. The perfective English passive saw an almost event split between *være*-passive and *bli*-passives as correspondences, the former

being slightly more frequent. Progressive English passives appeared almost exclusively with *bli*-passives as correspondences. These patterns prevail in both directions of translation.

The semantic classification of the corresponding passive verbs in original and translated fiction seems to indicate that verbs of activity are by far the most common type of passive verbs. Mental verbs and verbs of communication follow, but compared to the number of activity verbs they are rare. Furthermore, corresponding passive English and Norwegian verbs appear to be largely congruent, meaning they belong to the same semantic domains. There are only a few cases where the corresponding passive verbs diverge into different semantic domains. With respect to the type of English-Norwegian passive correspondence with which we find a particular semantic domain (i.e. what is the source, or which is the contributor), it is not surprising to find that the most frequent correspondence typically is the major source. Because activity verbs are so frequent, this trend as well as diverging behavior is seen most clearly with these verbs. There are some differences between English originals and English translations, such as the fact that activity verbs from simple English passives are found equally with *bli*-passive and *være*-passive correspondence in translations, but almost exclusively with *bli*-passives in originals. Ultimately, the differences are small; almost always do we find that the source is with the most frequent corresponding Norwegian passive.

The passive-active English-Norwegian correspondences in the randomly selected material has been grouped into five general categories that reflects the “change” the verbal group and verbs go through in the passive-active transition: verbal and lexical transformation, rewritten, converse, and zero. Zeroes are the rarest, and reflect a relationship of non-existence or at best a very tenuous relationship between the passive English verbal group and the Norwegian verbal group. Interestingly, zeroes appear to occur far more frequently in English translations than originals, although the absolute count of zeroes is very low. Converse verbs, or verbs of “oppositeness”, are second rarest, but occur almost equally as often in English originals and translations. Here too the relationship between the English verbal group and the Norwegian verbal group is fragile, based more on indirect association. Rewritten correspondence is the largest group, and in some sense it is a jack-of-all-trades or miscellaneous group. Indeed, although the propositional content of the passive English language is retained, the relationship between the passive verbal group and the active is one that fits none of the other categories definitively. The transformations are the type of passive-active correspondence between English and Norwegian where the relationship between the verbal groups is most readily

apparent. With verbal transformations the very same English verb is used in an active Norwegian configuration. The lexical transformations are those instances where the passive English verb is retained in the guise of another word class in the corresponding active Norwegian clause. In the random selection of material the frequency verbal and lexical transformation is similar in original and translated texts, but verbal transformations are the more common of the two by ten per cent. On the whole, the sorting of passive-active English-Norwegian correspondence into these five categories is largely similar in terms of frequency between English original texts and translated texts. The only exception that really stands out is that of zeroes, but the absolute count of such cases is low enough to question whether the difference is non-negligible.

It is difficult to neatly sum up English-Norwegian correspondences in terms of the passive. Not only is there little previous research to compare with, but the random selection of samples is not well suited to generalize about the collection of original and translated English texts found in the English-Norwegian Parallel Corpus. Even so, within this selected material there is a discernable difference in the frequency of passive Norwegian correspondences as well as a pattern of which type of Norwegian passives occurs as correspondences. Furthermore, the passive-active English-Norwegian correspondences in the selected material can be grouped based on the pattern of relationship between the passive verbal group and the active verbal group.

5.2 Further investigation

There are without doubt some holes and missing aspects of this investigation that through either fault or virtue offer possibilities of further investigation into the nature of English-Norwegian correspondence in the passive voice. The most obvious unexplored area is the Norwegian perspective. A deeper and richer understanding of Norwegian passives in original and translated Norwegian texts would greatly supplement any knowledge about English passives and their correspondences in original and translated English texts.

This thesis limits itself to a certain number of finite [BE/GET + Ven] constructions (*cf.* 3.3), and an investigation of other passive forms, such as non-finite passives, and their Norwegian correspondences would touch upon fresh ground. In a similar vein, the finite [BE/GET + Ven] constructions examined in this thesis have not been examined as extensively as possible. They

have been equally represented to the degree that it is possible through random selection (*cf.* 3.4), but there is probably more to discover about the different English passives. Particularly the simple English passive is not so well treated if we consider the number of them selected and examined compared to their total number. Herein the level of depth and variety extends only so far.

GET was included as a passive auxiliary in the search for passive constructions, and the Norwegian *få*-passive was included in the passive system. Although the aim of the investigation was not primarily to find relationships between these two, they are both rare enough in the material selected to prevent the finding and establishment of a relationship between them (*cf.* 4.9). In the case of the *get*-passive this is large part due to the random selection of material for analysis. The total of number of [GET + Ven] constructions found in English originals and English translations is sufficient to carry out an examination of such constructions specifically. Needless to say, such an investigation would not rely on random selection of the material. The extent of *få*-passives and constructions with *få* in the ENPC is not entirely known, and thus a dedicated investigation into *get*-passives and *få*-passives as correspondences is plausible.

Finally, it must be said that this investigation only look at texts of fiction. Although we may suspect that the frequency of passives in both English and Norwegian and their relationship as correspondences is higher in non-fiction, we cannot actually be entirely sure without looking for ourselves. Everything that has been done in this thesis as well as the possible unexplored avenues discussed above can be carried out on non-fiction texts. All in all, there are a considerable number of avenues for further investigation into the nature of English-Norwegian passive correspondence.

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Corpus

The English-Norwegian Parallel Corpus

(http://www.hf.uio.no/ilos/english/services/omc/enpc/)

Appendix: Semantic classification of corresponding passive verbs

In the table below the entire collection of corresponding passive verbs and their classification into semantic domains is listed in alphabetical order of the English verbs. From left to right, the columns indicate whether the corresponding verbs were found in English original or translated texts, what type of English passive they occurred with, the English and Norwegian verbs themselves, and the respective semantic domains of these verbs.

This classification represents my interpretation as a result of interaction with the selected language data, my familiarity with it, the context in which these verbs appeared, and the framework I have chosen to operate within. As such, I acknowledge that alternative intepretations of many of the verbs listed is likely given a different analytical framework, a different context, or a different understanding of the words themselves.

Semantic classification of corresponding passive verbs

Original / Translation	Passive type	ENG verb	NO verb	ENG semantic domain	NO semantic domain
Trans.	Progressive	abused	misbrukt	Activity	Activity
Org.	Simple modal	accounted	regnes	Mental	Mental
Org.	Simple modal	administered	gis	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Progressive	announced	lest opp	Communication	Communication
Trans.	Simple	arranged	avholdt	Activity	Activity
Org.	Perfective	arranged	ordnet	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Perfective	arranged	plassert	Activity	Activity
Org.	Simple	assessed	fastsatt	Mental	Mental
Trans.	Perfective	attached	knyttet	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Perfective	attacked	angrepet	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Perfective	badgered	plaget	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Simple Modal	boiled	kokes	Activity	Activity
Org.	Simple	booked	bestilt	Activity	Activity
Org.	Perfective	born	født	Occurrence	Occurrence
Org.	Perfective	born	født	Occurrence	Occurrence
Org.	Perfective	born	født	Occurrence	Occurrence
Org.	Perfective	born	født	Occurrence	Occurrence

Org.	Simple	born	født	Occurrence	Occurrence
Org.	Simple	born	født	Occurrence	Occurrence
Org.	Simple	borne	fraktet	Activity	Activity
Org.	Simple modal	borne up	holdt oppe	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Simple	bottled	tappes	Activity	Activity
Org.	Simple modal	bought	kjøpes	Activity	Activity
Org.	Perfective	broken	brutt	Activity	Activity
Org.	Perfective	broken into	utsatt	Activity	Activity
Org.	Perfective	brought	brakt	Activity	Activity
Org.	Progressive	brought up	oppdratt	Activity	Activity
Org.	Perfective	built	bebygd	Activity	Activity
Org.	Simple	built	bygd	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Simple Modal	calculated	beregnes	Mental	Mental
Org.	Simple	called	kalles	Communication	Communication
Trans.	Simple Modal	called	kalles	Communication	Communicative
Org.	Simple	called	kaltes	Communication	Communication
Org.	Perfective	called out	kalt ut	Communication	Communication
Org.	Simple modal	caressed	kjæretegnes	Activity *figurative	Activity
Trans.	Simple Modal	carried out	utføres	Activity	Activity
Org.	Simple	castrated	kastrert	Activity	Activity
Org.	Simple	caused	skyldtes	Causative	Causative
Org.	Simple	caused	skyldtes	Causative	Causative
Trans.	Perfective	changed	forandret	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Simple Modal	characterized	karakteriseres	Existence	Existence
Trans.	Simple	charmed	sjarmert	Activity	Activity
Org.	Progressive	chased	forfulgt	Activity	Activity
Org.	Simple modal	chosen	plukket	Mental	Activity
Org.	Simple	chucked out	pælma ut	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Perfective	circulated	distribuert	Activity *figurative	Activity
Trans.	Simple	circumcised	omskjært	Activity	Activity
Org.	Perfective	cleft	kløvet	Activity	Activity
Org.	Perfective	closed	oppsagt	Activity	Communication *figurative
Org.	Simple modal	closed	stengt	Activity	Activity
Org.	Perfective	collected	feid	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Simple	concealed	skjules	Activity	Activity

	Modal				
Org.	Perfective	conceived	unnfanget	Activity *figurative	Activity *figurative
Trans.	Progressive	confirmed	konfirmeres	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Perfective	confirmed	konfirmert	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Simple Modal	connected	kneppes	Activity	Activity
Org.	Perfective	considered	ansett	Mental	Mental
Trans.	Simple	constructed	konstruert	Activity	Activity
Org.	Simple modal	consumed	fortært	Activity	Activity
Org.	Perfective	contained	slukket	Activity	Activity
Org.	Simple modal	contorted	fordreid	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Simple Modal	converted	omdannes	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Perfective	cooked	kokt	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Progressive	cooked	kokt	Activity	Activity
Org.	Simple modal	cornered	trengt opp	Activity / Mental	Activity *figurative
Org.	Simple modal	covered	dekket	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Perfective	created	skapt	Activity	Activity
Org.	Simple modal	curtailed	innskrenket	Activity	Activity
Org.	Perfective	cut	slått	Activity	Activity
Org.	Simple modal	dealt with	trukket	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Simple Modal	decided	bestemmes	Mental	Mental
Trans.	Simple Modal	deducted	trekkes	Mental	Mental
Org.	Perfective	delayed	sinket	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Perfective	deleted	strøket	Activity	Activity
Org.	Perfective	designed	laget	Activity	Activity
Org.	Perfective	designed	skapt	Activity	Activity
Org.	Simple	detained	arrestert	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Simple Modal	determined	bestemmes	Mental	Mental
Org.	Perfective	devastated	ødelagt	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Simple Modal	directed	rettes	Communication	Communication
Org.	Simple	directed	rettet	Communication	Communication
Trans.	Simple	discovered	funnet	Activity	Activity
Org.	Simple Modal	discussed	diskuteres	Communication	Communication
Trans.	Simple	disfigured	skjemmet	Activity	Activity

Org.	Simple modal	displayed	vises frem	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Simple Modal	divided	deles opp	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Simple	done	gjort	Activity	Activity
Org.	Simple modal	done	gjøres	Activity	Activity
Org.	Simple modal	done	gjøres	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Simple Modal	done	gjøres	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Simple Modal	done	gjøres	Activity	Activity
Org.	Perfective	done	klart	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Progressive	drained	tappet	Activity	Activity
Org.	Perfective	drawn	gjort	Activity *figurative	Activity
Trans.	Perfective	dropped	henlagt	Activity *figurative	Activity
Org.	Simple modal	dropped	stanses	Activity	Activity
Org.	Simple modal	dug up	avdekkes	Activity *figurative	Activity *figurative
Trans.	Simple Modal	dyed	farges	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Perfective	elected	valgt	Causative	Causative
Org.	Progressive	enacted	proklamert	Activity	Communication
Trans.	Simple Modal	equipped	rustes ut	Activity	Activity
Org.	Perfective	examined	gjennomgransket	Activity / Mental	Activity / Mental
Trans.	Perfective	executed	henrettet	Activity	Activity
Org.	Simple modal	executed	skytes	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Perfective	exhorted	bedt	Communication	Communication
Trans.	Simple Modal	expected	ventes	Mental	Mental
Trans.	Simple Modal	explained	forklares	Communication	Communication
Org.	Perfective	exposed	utsatt	Activity	Activity
Org.	Progressive	exposed	utsatt	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Perfective	extolled	prist	Communication	Communication
Org.	Simple modal	felt	kjennes	Mental	Mental
Org.	Perfective	filed	arkivert	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Progressive	filled	effektuert	Activity	Activity
Org.	Perfective	filled	fylt	Activity	Activity

Trans.	Perfective	filled	fylt	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Simple Modal	fired	avfyrt	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Simple Modal	fired	skutt	Activity	Activity
Org.	Perfective	fired	svidd av	Activity	Activity
Org.	Progressive	followed	forfulgt	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Perfective	fooled	dopa	Activity / Mental	Activity
Trans.	Perfective	forced	brutt opp	Causative	Activity
Trans.	Perfective	forced	tvunget	Causative	Causative
Trans.	Perfective	forced out	presset fram	Causative	Activity
Org.	Simple modal	forged	forfalskes	Activity	Activity
Org.	Perfective	forgiven	tilgitt	Mental / Communication	Mental / Communication
Org.	Simple modal	found	finnes	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Simple	found	funnet	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Simple Modal	found	funnet	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Simple Modal	found	funnet	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Perfective	found	funnet	Activity	Activity
Org.	Simple modal	found	oppdrives	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Simple Modal	given	gitt	Activity *figurative	Activity* figurative
Trans.	Perfective	given	gitt (bort)	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Perfective	given	gitt (bort)	Activity	Activity
Org.	Perfective	given	utstyrt	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Perfective	given (notice)	oppsagt	Activity	Communication
Org.	Simple Modal	guaranteed	garantert	Causative	Causative
Org.	Perfective	halted	stoppet (opp)	Aspectual	Aspectual
Org.	Perfective	handed over	overlatt	Activity *figurative	Activity *figurative
Trans.	Perfective	heard	hørt	Mental	Mental
Org.	Progressive	held	holdt	Activity	Activity
Org.	Perfective	hired	leiet	Activity	Activity
Org.	Perfective	hit	overkjørt	Activity	Activity
Org.	Progressive	hoodwinked	narret	Activity / Mental	Activity / Mental
Org.	Progressive	hounded	jaget	Activity	Activity
Org.	Perfective	incinerated	brent	Activity	Activity
Org.	Simple modal	included	trukket inn	Activity *figurative	Activity
Trans.	Simple	increased	lagt på	Occurrence	Activity

	Modal				
Trans.	Simple Modal	informed	anmeldt	Communication	Communication
Trans.	Perfective	installed	innlagt	Activity	Activity
Org.	Simple	interred	begravd	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Simple Modal	interred	bisettes	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Simple Modal	interred	bisettes	Activity	Activity
Org.	Simple Modal	interrupted	forstyrret	Communication	Communication
Trans.	Perfective	introduced	introdusert	Communication	Communication
Org.	Simple	invited	invitert	Communication	Communication
Trans.	Perfective	involved	utsatt	Causative	Activity
Org.	Perfective	jailed	fengslet	Activity	Activity
Org.	Progressive	judged	dømt	Mental	Mental
Trans.	Simple Modal	kicked open	sparket opp	Activity	Activity
Org.	Perfective	killed	drept	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Simple	labelled	forsynes	Communication	Activity
Org.	Perfective	laid (to rest)	begravet	Activity *figurative	Activity
Org.	Perfective	left	etterlatt	Activity	Activity
Org.	Simple	linked	forbundet	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Simple Modal	locked	låst	Activity	Activity
Org.	Perfective	locked out	utestengt	Activity	Activity
Org.	Simple modal	looked at	sett rart på	Activity / Mental	Activity / Mental
Org.	Simple modal	looted	plyndres	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Progressive	lowered	senka	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Simple Modal	lowered	senkast	Activity	Activity
Org.	Simple	made	besluttet	Mental	Mental
Trans.	Perfective	made	tatt	Mental	Mental
Trans.	Simple Modal	maintained	opprettholdt	Existence	Existence
Trans.	Simple	married off	bortgiftet	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Perfective	mentioned	omtalt	Communication	Communication
Org.	Progressive	moved	fjernet	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Perfective	murdered	drept	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Simple	needed	trengtes	Mental	Mental
Org.	Perfective	noted	fastslått	Mental *figurative	Mental
Trans.	Perfective	notified	underrettet	Communication	Communication
Trans.	Simple	observed	fulgt	Activity	Activity / Mental

				*figurative	
Trans.	Simple	opened	åpnet	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Simple Modal	operated	fjernstyrast	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Perfective	ordered	befalt	Communication	Communication
Trans.	Progressive	overhauled	overhalt	Activity	Activity
Org.	Perfective	painted	malt	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Perfective	painted	malt	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Perfective	painted	malt	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Simple Modal	pawned	pantsettes	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Perfective	perfected	oppdrevet	Activity	Activity
Org.	Perfective	performed	foretatt	Activity	Activity
Org.	Perfective	placed	plassert	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Simple Modal	placed	plassert	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Progressive	played	drives	Activity *figurative	Activity *figurative
Trans.	Perfective	pointed out	utpekt	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Perfective	portrayed	malt inn	Communication	Activity
Org.	Simple modal	presented	presenteres	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Perfective	presented	stilt	Occurrence	Occurrence
Org.	Simple	prompted	foranlediget	Causative	Causative
Org.	Simple modal	published	offentliggjor t	Activity	Activity
Org.	Perfective	pulled	dratt	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Progressive	pulled out	trukket opp	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Perfective	pulled upp	trukket	Activity	Activity
Org.	Progressive	punished	straffet	Activity	Activity
Org.	Progressive	punished	straffet	Activity	Activity
Org.	Simple modal	punished	straffet	Activity	Activity
Org.	Simple modal	purchased	kjøpes	Activity *figurative	Activity *figurative
Trans.	Simple	pushed out	dyttet ut	Activity	Activity
Org.	Perfective	put	plassert	Activity	Activity
Org.	Perfective	put	stelt	Activity *figurative	Activity
Org.	Perfective	put (aside)	satt (til side)	Activity	Activity
Org.	Perfective	put down	hensatt	Activity *figurative	Activity *figurative
Org.	Progressive	questioned	spurt ut	Communication	Communication
Trans.	Simple Modal	raised	hevast	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Perfective	ravaged	plyndret	Activity	Activity

Org.	Simple	recognised	gjenkjent	Mental	Mental
Org.	Perfective	recommended	anbefalt	Communication	Communication
Trans.	Perfective	reinforced	utlånt	Activity	Activity
Org.	Simple modal	rejected	avvist	Mental	Mental
Trans.	Perfective	remanded	fengsla	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Perfective	remodelled	bygget om	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Perfective	removed	opphevet	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Perfective	renovated	pusset opp	Activity	Activity
Org.	Simple Modal	repeated	gjentas	Aspectual	Aspectual
Org.	Perfective	replaced	avløst	Activity	Occurrence
Org.	Perfective	replaced	erstattet	Activity	Activity
Org.	Perfective	reprieved	benådet	Activity / Communication	Activity / Communication
Trans.	Simple Modal	reproduced	gjengitt	Activity	Activity
Org.	Simple Modal	required	innkalt	Causative	Communication
Trans.	Perfective	rescued	reddet	Activity	Activity
Org.	Simple modal	returned	levert tilbake	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Perfective	ripped	revet	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Simple Modal	ruined	ødelagt	Activity	Activity
Org.	Simple	run	drives	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Perfective	said	sagt	Communication	Communication
Trans.	Simple	said	sagt	Communication	Communication
Org.	Progressive	said	sagt	Communication	Communication
Org.	Progressive	sandblasted	sandblåst	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Simple Modal	saved	reddast	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Simple	saved	reddet	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Progressive	saved	spartes	Activity	Activity
Org.	Perfective	scripted	satt (I scene)	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Simple	sealed	forseglet	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Perfective	sealed up	stengt	Activity	Activity
Org.	Simple modal	seen	betraktes	Mental *figurative	Mental *figurative
Org.	Simple modal	seen	sees	Mental	Mental
Org.	Progressive	seen	sett	Mental	Mental
Trans.	Simple	sent	sendes	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Simple Modal	sent	sendes	Activity	Activity

Org.	Simple	sent away	sendt bort	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Simple Modal	served	servert	Activity	Activity
Org.	Perfective	set up	lagt	Activity *figurative	Activity *figurative
Org.	Simple modal	shattered	splintres	Activity *figurative	Activity *figurative
Org.	Perfective	shot	skutt	Activity	Activity
Org.	Simple	shot (dead)	skutt ned	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Progressive	shouted	ropes	Communication	Communication
Org.	Progressive	shoved	stuet (sammen)	Activity *figurative	Activity
Trans.	Simple	singled out	nevnt	Mental *figurative	Communication
Org.	Simple	spared	spart	Activity	Activity
Org.	Simple modal	spared	spart	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Perfective	spared	spart	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Perfective	spattered	sprengt	Activity	Activity
Org.	Simple modal	sprinkled	spres	Activity *figurative	Activity *figurative
Trans.	Perfective	squeezed in	presset inn	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Perfective	stabbed	stukket (ned)	Activity	Activity
Org.	Simple	stated	sagt	Communication	Communication
Org.	Simple	steered	geleidet	Activity	Activity
Org.	Simple	stifled	kveles	Activity	Activity
Org.	Perfective	stolen	stjålet	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Simple	stored	lagres	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Perfective	stretched	spent	Activity	Activity
Org.	Progressive	stripped	avkles	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Progressive	subjected	forfulgt	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Perfective	subjected	rundprylt	Activity	Activity
Org.	Perfective	submitted	levert inn	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Simple Modal	summoned	tilkalt	Communication	Communication
Org.	Simple	sunk	senket	Occurrence	Occurrence
Trans.	Perfective	supplied	anskaffet	Activity	Activity
Org.	Progressive	swallowed	slukt	Activity	Activity
Org.	Perfective	switched on	slått på	Activity	Activity
Org.	Perfective	taken	innlagt	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Simple	taken	tatt	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Perfective	taken away	kjørt bort	Activity	Activity
Org.	Perfective	taken up	løftet opp	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Simple Modal	tied	knytta	Activity	Activity
Org.	Simple Modal	told	underrettes	Communication	Communication

Org.	Simple	torn	fratatt	Activity	Activity
Org.	Perfective	torn apart	slitt	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Simple	tossed	slengt	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Simple Modal	transformed	omdannes	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Simple Modal	transformed	omgjøres	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Simple	transmitted	ført	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Perfective	turned into	ominnredet	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Simple Modal	unraveled	løses opp	Activity *figurative	Activity *figurative
Org.	Progressive	urged	presset	Communication	Communication
Trans.	Simple Modal	used	brukes	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Simple Modal	used	brukes	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Progressive	used	brukt	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Simple	used	tatt (i bruk)	Activity	Activity
Org.	Simple modal	used	utnyttes	Activity	Activity
Org.	Simple modal	valued	nytes	Mental	Mental
Trans.	Progressive	wafted	tatt	Activity	Activity
Org.	Perfective	warmed	oppvarmet	Activity	Activity
Org.	Perfective	warned	advart	Communication	Communication
Trans.	Simple Modal	watched	passes på	Activity *figurative	Activity *figurative
Trans.	Progressive	whipped	pisket	Activity	Activity
Trans.	Perfective	whipped	prylt	Activity	Activity
Org.	Progressive	widened	utvidet	Occurrence	Occurrence
Org.	Perfective	wrecked	ødelagt	Activity	Activity
Org.	Simple	written	skrevet	Communication	Communication